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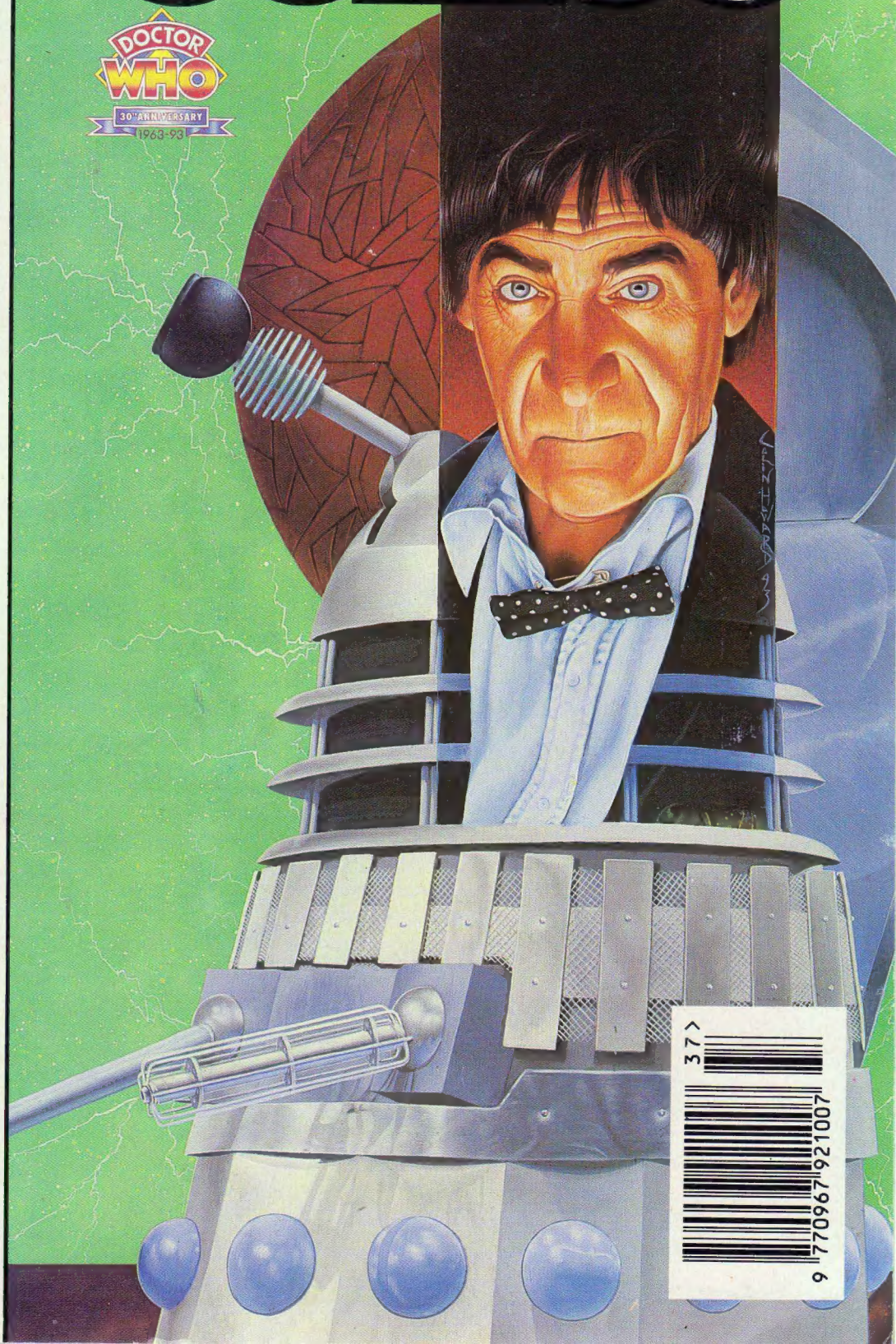
DOCTOR WHO™

CLASSIC COMICS™



FREE GIANT KRAAL POSTER!

Continuing the Fifth Doctor's battle against *The Tides of Time*

Behind the Scenes: Artist Dave Gibbons on *Who* strips in the early Eighties

PLUS

The Second Doctor strikes back at the Daleks!

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CLASSI

Editor
Gary Russell

Assistant Editor
Marcus Hearn

Designer
Gary Gilbert

Dalek Operator
Louise Cassell

Consultants
John Ainsworth
Bruce Campbell
Tony Clark
Selgi Longman
Andrew Pixley
Martin J. Wiggins

Front Cover
Colin Howard

Production
Julie Pickering
Chris McCormack
Mathew Hyde

Promotions
Fiona Moscatelli

Editor in Chief
Paul Neary

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BBC Enterprises have confirmed that plans to produce their special drama, *The Dark Dimension*, have been cancelled.

The reason for this appears to be a lack of money needed to make the programme within the allotted time. For full details of the cancellation, see Issue 203 of Doctor Who Magazine. To briefly re-cap, BBC Enterprises are bitterly upset that their plans had to be halted. Various production personnel had been asked to work on the show and director Graeme (*Androzani/Revelation of the Daleks*) Harper was in consultation with the Doctors about reprising their roles. A script had been written by *Doctor Who – The Monsters* author Adrian Rigelsford and BBC script writer Jo McCaul. A production office had even been set up at the BBC Enterprises building in West London.

All this year BBC Video have been promoting the Thirtieth Anniversary of *Doctor Who* extraordinarily well, giving it the highest profile possible. *The Dark Dimension* would have been the icing on the cake, but alas it is not to be.

Here at Marvel Comics we are all very disappointed – after four long years of waiting, we really thought the programme was making an overdue return.

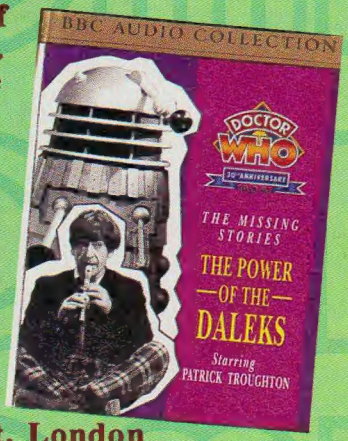
C COMICS C

Maybe something can be done for the show's 31st Anniversary next year. Only time will tell but in the meantime, keep watching these pages and the pages of DWM and remember to keep your fingers crossed...

Reprinted below is a cartoon, one of the earliest spoofing *Doctor Who*, from the popular *Captain Pugwash* strip in *Radio Times*. Thanks to Tony Clark for sending this one in.

PUGWASH AHOY! BY JOHN RYAN

This month sees the release of David Whitaker's *The Power of the Daleks* as part of the BBC Audio Collection. We have *TEN* of these double-packs to give away *FREE* courtesy of BBC Enterprises. All you have to do is tell us which other Dalek story was written by David Whita-ker. Answers on a post-card or back of a sealed envelope to: *Power Play*, Doctor Who Classic Comics, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2R 3DX. Entries must arrive by 28th October 1993.



***THE TIDES OF TIME: Part Two*...4**
The Fifth Doctor and Justin conclude their battle against the evil Melanicus. Written by Steve Parkhouse with art by Dave Gibbons, this instalment has been newly coloured by Paul Vyse except pages 12 and 13 which are from Dave Gibbons own colouring. Originally presented in **Doctor Who Monthly** Issues 65 – 68.

PULL-OUT POSTER.....26
Sarah Jane Smith.

STRIPPED ASSETS.....32
Beginning an irregular series of interviews with the creators of the *Doctor Who* comic strips, Alan Woollcombe talks to artist Dave Gibbons, whose *The Tides of Time* work is reprinted in this issue of **Doctor Who Classic Comics**.

***THE DOCTOR STRIKES BACK*...36**
The Second Doctor, having defeated the Daleks on Trodos, prepares to confront his old foes once again. Featuring art by John Canning, this strip has been newly coloured by Chris McCormack. Originally presented in *TV Comic* Issues 792 – 795

VWORP VWORP.....48
John Ainsworth begins a new, detailed chronology of the *Doctor Who* comic strips, noting writers, artists, dates of publication and a short synopsis of each adventure.

***FREE* PULL-OUT GIANT POSTER:**
The Kraals, evil scientific warlords who wanted to use Earth as their new home, replacing humanity with android duplicates in 1975's *The Android Invasion*. Photo © BBC

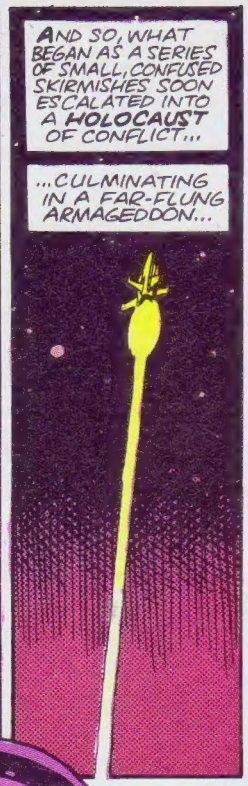
THE TIDES OF TIME

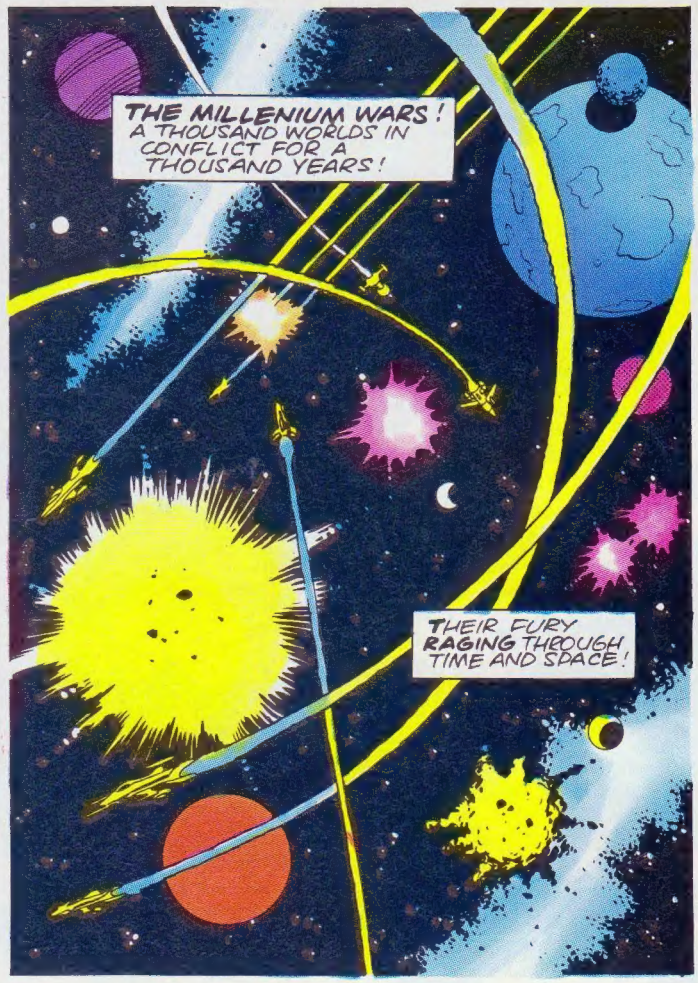
PART FIVE

Script: Steve Parkhouse Art: Dave Gibbons Editor: Alan McKenzie

CENTURY AGAINST CENTURY... THE HISTORY OF A PLANET TORN ASUNDER!
FWOOOOM!
FWAAAM!
EACH AGE BATTLED FOR SUPREMACY IN A VAST, CHAOTIC AND INSANE WAR... THE ULTIMATE FUTILITY, A WAR THAT NONE COULD WIN!
WHOMM
P!
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO HERE! JUST HIT 'EM WITH EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT AND HEAD FOR HOME! OVER AND OUT!
PLT
175
WHAAAM!
JUST ONE THING YOU FORGOT TO TELL ME, FLIGHT! WHERE THE HELL IS HOME?

AAAGH!


AND SO, WHAT BEGAN AS A SERIES OF SMALL, CONFUSED SKIRMISHES SOON ESCALATED INTO A HOLOCAUST OF CONFLICT...
...CULMINATING IN A FAR-FLUNG ARMAGEDDON...

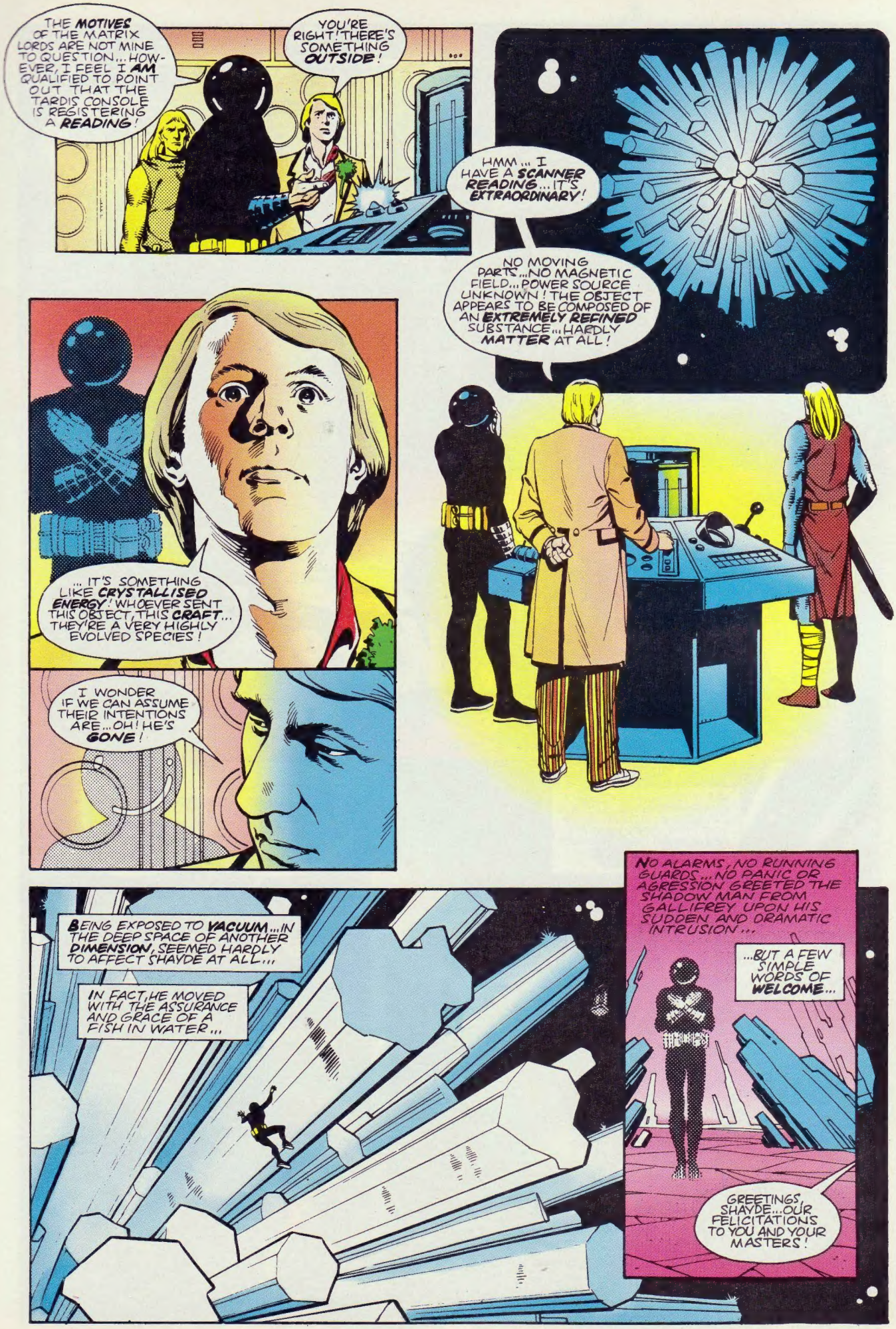

THE MILLENIUM WARS! A THOUSAND WORLDS IN CONFLICT FOR A THOUSAND YEARS!
THEIR FURY RAGING THROUGH TIME AND SPACE!

SUCH THEN IS THE FATE OF PLANET EARTH... AND A THOUSAND OTHER WORLDS BESIDES...
...IN THIS, THE REIGN OF MELANICUS!

BUT MELANICUS HAS CONFINED HIMSELF TO A LINEAR PATH...
...A CUL-DE-SAC IN TIME!
HIS LIMITED KNOWLEDGE OF THE EVENT SYNTHESISER HAS RESTRICTED HIS ACTIONS TO A SINGLE DIMENSION...
IF HE SHOULD DISCOVER THE KEY TO A MULTI-DIMENSIONAL RANGE, THEN NOWHERE IS SAFE ...NOT EVEN GALLIFREY!
LET US PRAY THEN, RASSILON... THAT YOUR GOOD DOCTOR FINDS THE SYNTHESISER BEFORE THE ENTIRE COSMOS IS THREATENED!

TWENTY EIGHT YEARS, JUSTIN...
TWENTY EIGHT YEARS!
WHAT'S THAT, DOCTOR?
TWENTY EIGHT YEARS SINCE WE LEFT GALLIFREY... AND JUST ABOUT TO ENTER THE TWENTY NINTH!
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! IT SEEMS BUT A FEW HOURS!
SUCH IS THE NATURE OF TIME!
WE'VE BEEN HANGING STATIONARY IN ANOTHER DIMENSION FOR THE LAST TWENTY FOUR HOURS...
SHELTERING FROM THE EFFECTS OF THE MAELSTROM!
BUT SINCE WE LEFT GALLIFREY, TWENTY NINE EARTH YEARS HAVE ELAPSED ... RECORDED HERE ON THE CHRONOMETER OF ABSOLUTE TIME...
THAT'S ANOTHER OF RASSILON'S LITTLE INNOVATIONS... MADE POSSIBLE BY HIS GENERAL SPACE-TIME THEORY...
029·0
HOWEVER ...IF WE ARE TO FIND THE DEMON MELANICUS, WE HAVE TO ENTER THE TURBULENCE OF THE MAELSTROM YET AGAIN...
BUT THE PROBLEM IS... AT WHAT POINT?
WE MUST DETERMINE THE EXACT POINT OF ENTRY THAT IS CLOSEST TO THE SYNTHESISER...
BUT WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHERE IT IS AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT...
THAT SHOULD BE COMPARATIVELY SIMPLE, DOCTOR... CONSIDERING THE RELATIVE SIZE OF THE SYNTHESISER ITSELF... AND THE FACT THAT IT DOESN'T ACTUALLY MOVE...
BUT EVERYTHING ELSE MOVES IN RELATION TO IT!

WHO SAID THAT? WAS THAT YOU, JUSTIN?
NOT I! HOW WOULD I KNOW OF SUCH THINGS? ARE WE BESET BY DEMONS AGAIN?
IT WAS I WHO SPOKE... LOOK DOWN AT YOUR FEET, DOCTOR!
GOOD HEAVENS! THE SHADOW MAN! WHERE DID YOU GET TO?
I'VE BEEN HERE ALL THE TIME...
I AM SHAYDE... I HAVE BEEN WITH YOU SINCE YOU LEFT GALLIFREY...
...MY PURPOSE IS YOUR PURPOSE. MY MASTERS HAVE INSTRUCTED ME TO ASSIST YOU!
MY MASTERS, THE MATRIX LORDS, ARE ATTEMPTING TO LOCATE THE EVENT SYNTHESISER...
A DIFFICULT TASK, EVEN FOR THEM. THEY HAVE SOUGHT HELP FROM MANY QUARTERS...
...NEEDLESS TO SAY, I AM IN CONSTANT MENTAL CONTACT WITH THE MATRIX...
I AM ALSO AS FAMILIAR WITH THE FUNCTION OF THE TARDIS AS YOU ARE YOURSELF...
THAT'S REASSURING...
I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER WHY I'M NEEDED HERE AT ALL!
I CAN ONLY SURMISE, DOCTOR, THAT I AM EXPENDABLE... WHEREAS YOU ARE NOT!
THAT'S EVEN MORE REASSURING ...NOTHING PERSONAL, OF COURSE!


THE MOTIVES OF THE MATRIX LORDS ARE NOT MINE TO QUESTION... HOWEVER, I FEEL I AM QUALIFIED TO POINT OUT THAT THE TARDIS CONSOLE IS REGISTERING A READING!
YOU'RE RIGHT! THERE'S SOMETHING OUTSIDE!
HMM... I HAVE A SCANNER READING... IT'S EXTRAORDINARY!
NO MOVING PARTS... NO MAGNETIC FIELD... POWER SOURCE UNKNOWN! THE OBJECT APPEARS TO BE COMPOSED OF AN EXTREMELY REFINED SUBSTANCE... HARDLY MATTER AT ALL!
... IT'S SOMETHING LIKE CRYSTALLISED ENERGY! WHOEVER SENT THIS OBJECT, THIS CRAFT... THEY'RE A VERY HIGHLY EVOLVED SPECIES!
I WONDER IF WE CAN ASSUME THEIR INTENTIONS ARE... OH! HE'S GONE!
BEING EXPOSED TO VACUUM... IN THE DEEP SPACE OF ANOTHER DIMENSION, SEEMED HARDLY TO AFFECT SHAYDE AT ALL...
IN FACT, HE MOVED WITH THE ASSURANCE AND GRACE OF A FISH IN WATER...
NO ALARMS, NO RUNNING GUARDS... NO PANIC OR AGRESSION GREETED THE SHADOW MAN FROM GALLIFREY UPON HIS SUDDEN AND DRAMATIC INTRUSION...
...BUT A FEW SIMPLE WORDS OF WELCOME...
GREETINGS, SHAYDE... OUR FELICITATIONS TO YOU AND YOUR MASTERS!

GREETINGS, MY LORDS OF ALTHRACE...I WAS INFORMED THAT WE WOULD MEET BEFORE LONG!
I HAD NO IDEA THAT IT WOULD BE THIS SOON!
MERE MINUTES HAD ELAPSED SINCE SHAYDE'S SUDDEN DEPARTURE...AND THEN...
THE CRYSTAL CRAFT IS FROM ALTHRACE, DOCTOR...WE ARE AMONG FRIENDS! YOU ARE WELCOME ABOARD, BUT PLEASE STAY INSIDE THE TARDIS AS THERE IS NO ATMOSPHERE IN THE SHIP!

VWORP
VWORP!
I'LL SAY ONE THING FOR THIS MAN SHAYDE...HE'S EFFICIENT!

AS IF BY SOME SILENT COMMAND, THE GREAT CRYSTAL FLASHED INTO THE VOID, CARRYING ITS PERPLEXED PASSENGERS DEEP INTO AN ALIEN DIMENSION...

HOW VERY INTERESTING... OUR INSTRUMENTS ARE REGISTERING AN EXTERNAL VELOCITY!..
BUT NO ACTUAL MOMENTUM! THIS CRAFT IS ALMOST AS COMPLEX AS THE TARDIS!
OUR HOSTS HAVE NOW ARRANGED AN ATMOSPHERE FOR YOU TO BREATHE, DOCTOR...
IF YOU'D CARE TO STEP OUTSIDE, WE ARE APPROACHING ALTHRACE...

WE CAN WATCH THE REMAINDER OF THE FLIGHT THROUGH THE OBSERVATION WINDOW...
WELL, WELL, JUSTIN... I KNEW THEY EXISTED IN THEORY... BUT I NEVER DREAMED FOR A MOMENT THAT I'D BE PRIVILEGED TO ACTUALLY SEE ONE!
WHAT IS IT, DOCTOR?
A SPLENDID SIGHT, JUSTIN... ONE OF THE GREAT MYSTERIES OF CREATION...
A WHITE HOLE!!

THE VAST BIO-MECHANICAL COMPLEX KNOWN AS THE **EVENT SYNTHESISER**, HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THE DEMON **MELANICUS**... AND WITH IT, HE NOW **CONTROLS** THE FLOW OF EVENTS IN TIME...

THE DOCTOR, ON A MISSION TO RECOVER THE MACHINE, IS TAKEN BY **ALIEN BEINGS** INTO THE CENTRE OF A **WHITE HOLE!**

NOW **THAT'S** WHAT I **CALL** AN ENGINEERING PROJECT! TAKE AN **ENTIRE SOLAR SYSTEM** AND **BOLT** IT TOGETHER!

THEN SET THE WHOLE THING **SPINNING** IN A WHITE HOLE!

I'M **SPEECHLESS**, MY FRIEND! WHY SHOULD ANYONE WANT TO DO THIS? **WHY?**

WHY DOES ANYONE CREATE ANYTHING? AS A **HOMAGE** TO HIS **CREATOR**! THE PLANETARY PROJECT WAS COMPLETED IN THE **DAWN** OF OUR HISTORY ...AND WAS INTENDED TO SYMBOLISE **UNITY**!

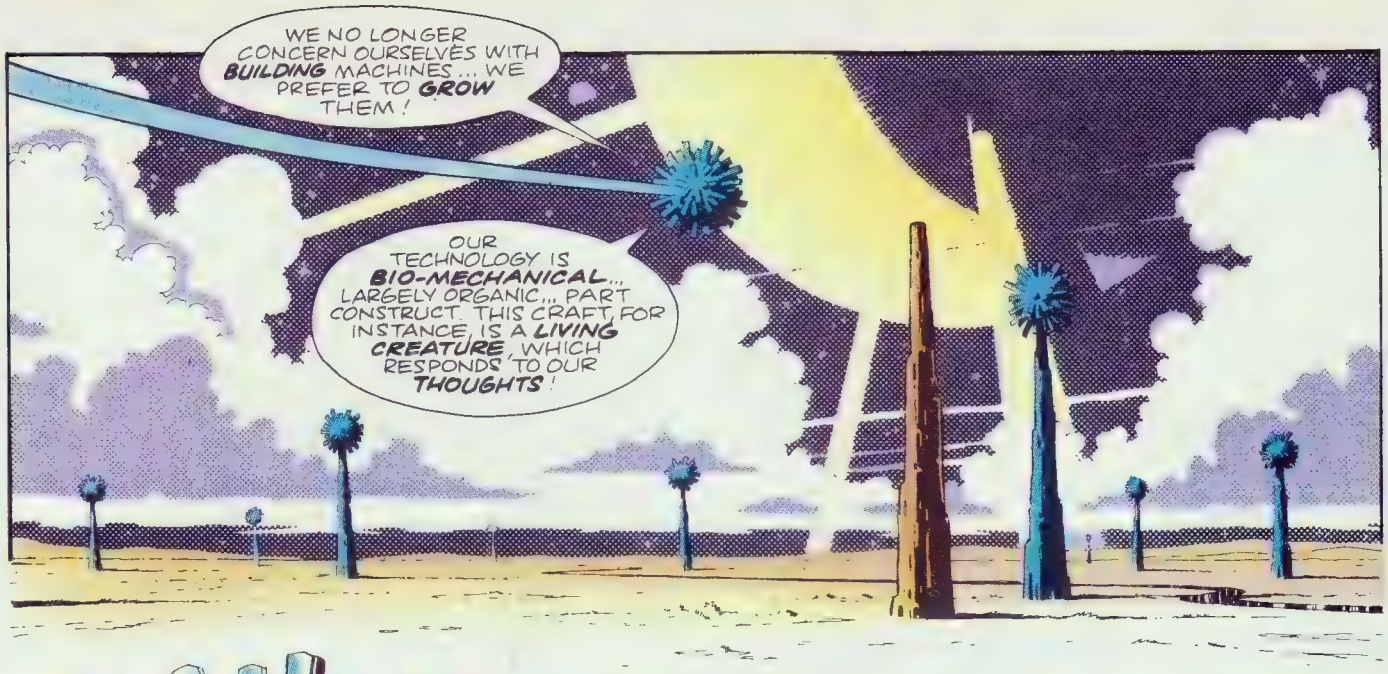
A THANKS-GIVING, IF YOU LIKE, FOR FINAL, LASTING PEACE BETWEEN OUR DIFFERENT WORLDS...

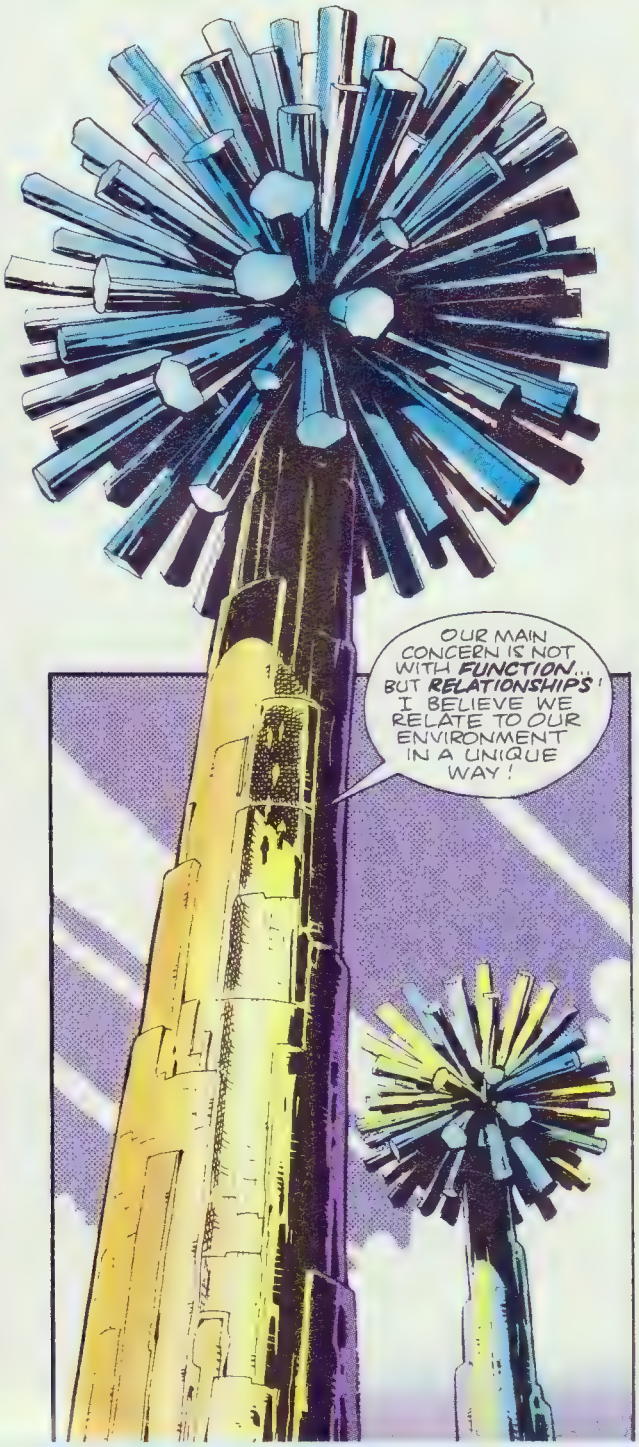
THE WHITE HOLE HAS **ALWAYS** BEEN OUR HOME! THERE ARE MANY CREATIVE FORCES HERE THAT WE HAVE SOUGHT TO HARNESS ...AND EVEN **CONTROL**!

YOU WILL SEE MORE WHEN WE LAND ON **ALTHRACE**!

THE TIDES OF TIME

PART SIX

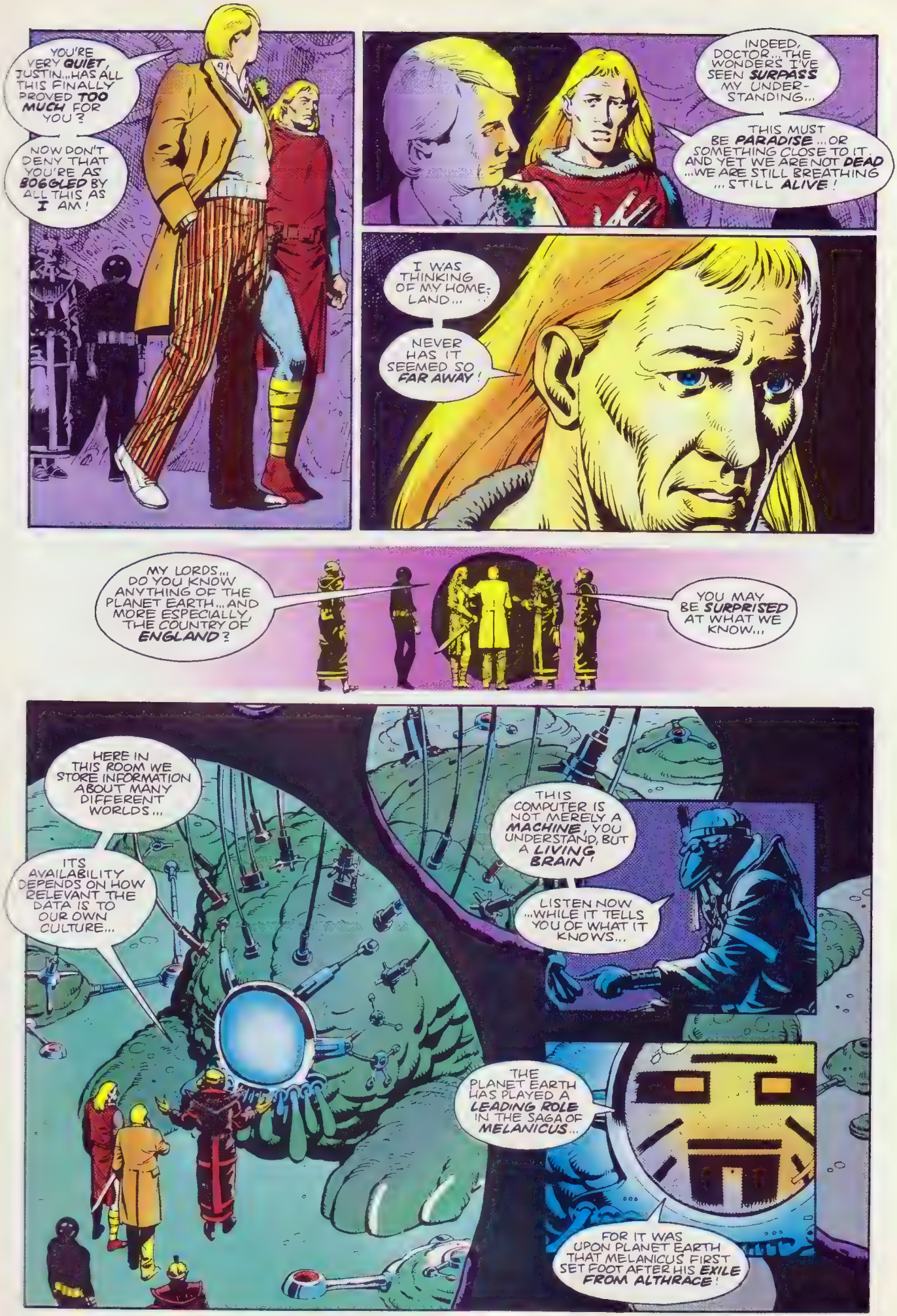

WE NO LONGER CONCERN OURSELVES WITH BUILDING MACHINES... WE PREFER TO GROW THEM!
OUR TECHNOLOGY IS BIO-MECHANICAL... LARGELY ORGANIC... PART CONSTRUCT. THIS CRAFT, FOR INSTANCE, IS A LIVING CREATURE, WHICH RESPONDS TO OUR THOUGHTS!


OUR MAIN CONCERN IS NOT WITH FUNCTION... BUT RELATIONSHIPS! I BELIEVE WE RELATE TO OUR ENVIRONMENT IN A UNIQUE WAY!

QUITE SO, DOCTOR...QUITE SO. WE ARE SITUATED AT ONE OF THE SOURCES OF CREATION...THE WHITE HOLE ITSELF...
JUST WHAT IS THE NATURE OF THAT RELATIONSHIP? YOU SEEM TO BE HINTING AT SOMETHING GREATER THAN THAT WHICH IS VISIBLE...

HERE ARE SOWN THE SEEDS OF THE FUTURE...AND THEIR GROWTH DEPENDS UPON THE SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OURSELVES AND OUR PLANETARY SYSTEM!

YOU MEAN... YOU AND YOUR HOME-WORLDS HAVE BECOME...
...A SINGLE VAST, THINKING FEELING, INTELLIGENT BEING! PRECISELY, DOCTOR!

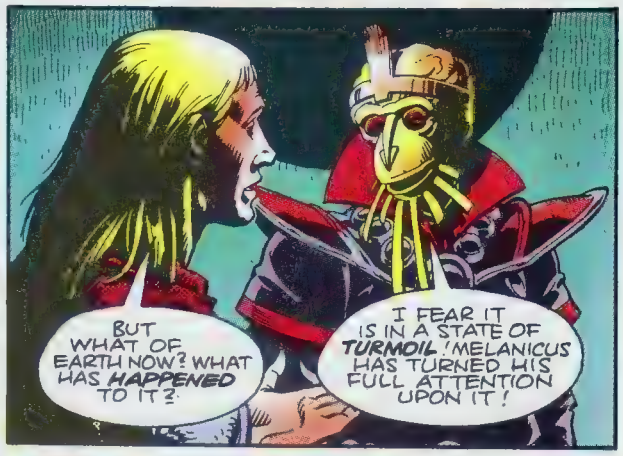

YOU'RE VERY QUIET, JUSTIN...HAS ALL THIS FINALLY PROVED TOO MUCH FOR YOU?
NOW DON'T DENY THAT YOU'RE AS BOGGLED BY ALL THIS AS I AM!
INDEED, DOCTOR...THE WONDERS I'VE SEEN SURPASS MY UNDERSTANDING...
THIS MUST BE PARADISE...OR SOMETHING CLOSE TO IT. AND YET WE ARE NOT DEAD ...WE ARE STILL BREATHING ...STILL ALIVE!
I WAS THINKING OF MY HOMELAND...
NEVER HAS IT SEEMED SO FAR AWAY!
MY LORDS... DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING OF THE PLANET EARTH...AND MORE ESPECIALLY, THE COUNTRY OF ENGLAND?
YOU MAY BE SURPRISED AT WHAT WE KNOW...
HERE IN THIS ROOM WE STORE INFORMATION ABOUT MANY DIFFERENT WORLDS...
ITS AVAILABILITY DEPENDS ON HOW RELEVANT THE DATA IS TO OUR OWN CULTURE...
THIS COMPUTER IS NOT MERELY A MACHINE, YOU UNDERSTAND, BUT A LIVING BRAIN!
LISTEN NOW ...WHILE IT TELLS YOU OF WHAT IT KNOWS...
THE PLANET EARTH HAS PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN THE SAGA OF MELANICUS...
FOR IT WAS UPON PLANET EARTH THAT MELANICUS FIRST SET FOOT AFTER HIS EXILE FROM ALTHRACE!

WHAT? MELANICUS WAS A NATIVE OF ALTHRACE?
REMEMBER, DOCTOR... ALTHRACE IS NOT A SINGLE PLANET, BUT A SYSTEM!
A SYSTEM THAT SUPPORTS MANY RACES... AND MANY DIFFERENT SPECIES
BUT LET THE COMPUTER CONTINUE ...OPEN YOUR MINDS TO THE IMAGES IT SUMMONS FORTH...
"MELANICUS WAS OF THE RACE OF KALICHURA... AND A HIGHLY EVOLVED BEING ...BUT HIS TORTURED SOUL DEVELOPED A PASSION FOR WAR AND DESTRUCTION..."
"HE TRIED TO CONQUER ALTHRACE! OUR MYTHOLOGY IS FULL OF TALES OF BATTLES BETWEEN GODS AND DEMONS..."
"MELANICUS WAS DEFEATED... AND TOOK FLIGHT INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION...
...THERE, HE APPEARED IN A DREAM TO A KING FROM THE PLANET EARTH!"
"A THIRD CENTURY DESPOT CALLED CATAVOLCUS! ONE WHO DABBLED IN THE BLACK ARTS!"
CATAVOLCUS! I KNEW HE'D HAVE TO BE MIXED UP IN ALL THIS!

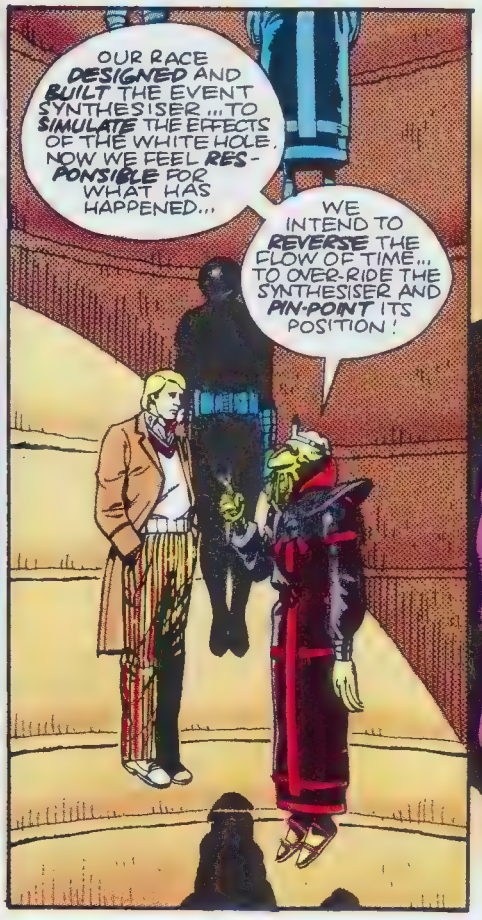
"THE TYRANT KING PERFORMED A CEREMONY WHICH GAVE MELANICUS ENTRY TO A NEW DIMENSION...
...IN THE MISTAKEN BELIEF THAT HE HAD CONJURED FORTH A GOD!"
"IN RETURN, MELANICUS BESTOWED GREAT POWER UPON HIM...
..HE DIVULGED TO CATAVOLCUS THE SECRETS OF THE ATOM...AND THE ABILITY TO TRAVERSE TIME!"
"TOGETHER, THE TWO FIENDS COULD HAVE CONQUERED THE EARTH...
...BUT FOR THE INTERVENTION OF THE GREAT WIZARD, MERLIN!"
"MERLIN REVERSED THE PROCESS, BANISHING MELANICUS TO HIS WORLD OF DARKNESS...
AND CATAVOLCUS STILL ROAMS TIME AND SPACE... PILLAGING PLANETS FOR THEIR POWER!"

I CAN ADD A CLOSING CHAPTER TO YOUR FILE ON CATAVOLCUS ...HIS DAYS ARE NUMBERED...
AT SOME POINT IN EARTH'S FUTURE HE IS KILLED IN A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION!*
* SEE ISSUE 9.

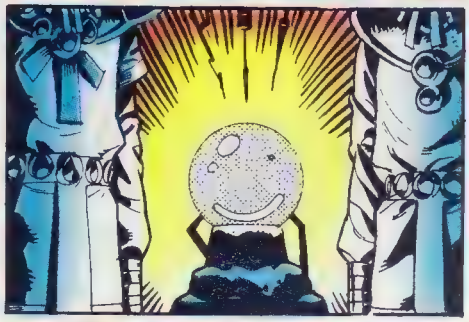
AND THE GUIDING HAND WAS MERLIN'S! ALTHOUGH I DIDN'T REALISE IT AT THE TIME, HE DID PLANET EARTH A GREAT SERVICE...
AND PROBABLY SAVED OTHER WORLDS, AS WELL!

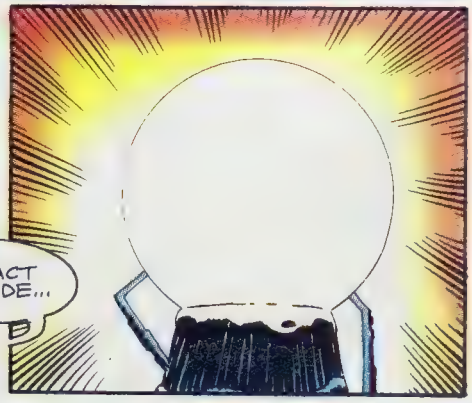

BUT WHAT OF EARTH NOW? WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO IT?
I FEAR IT IS IN A STATE OF TURMOIL! MELANICUS HAS TURNED HIS FULL ATTENTION UPON IT!

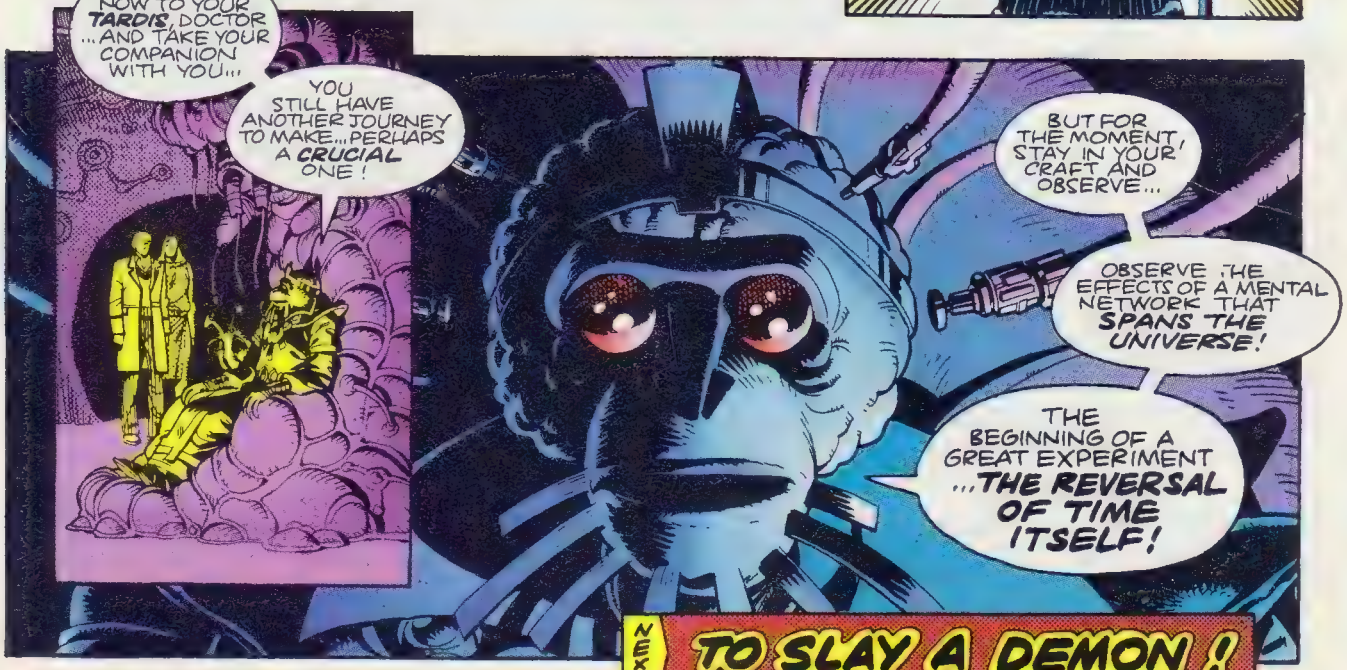
A STATE WHICH WE HOPE TO REMEDY ...WITH THE HELP OF YOU ALL...
COME THIS WAY...


OUR RACE DESIGNED AND BUILT THE EVENT SYNTHESISER ...TO SIMULATE THE EFFECTS OF THE WHITE HOLE. NOW WE FEEL RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAS HAPPENED...
WE INTEND TO REVERSE THE FLOW OF TIME... TO OVER-RIDE THE SYNTHESISER AND PIN-POINT ITS POSITION!

WITH THE POWER OF OUR THOUGHTS, DOCTOR! THE COMBINED WILL OF EVERY HIGH EVOLUTIONARY KNOWN TO US...
HOW DO YOU INTEND TO DO THIS?
INCLUDING THE MATRIX LORDS OF GALLIFREY!

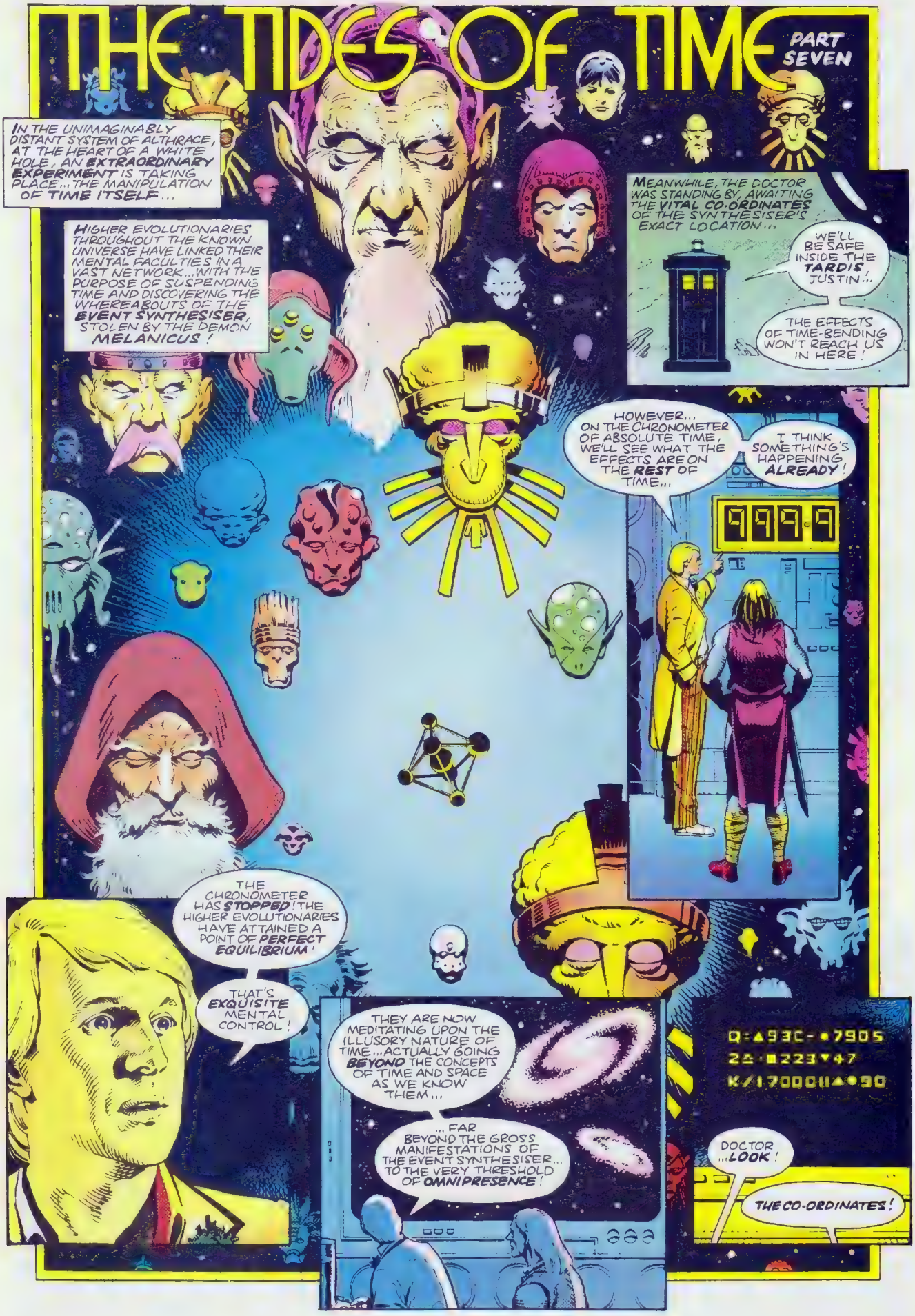






NEXT: TO SLAY A DEMON!

Script: Steve Parkhouse Art: Dave Gibbons Editor: Alan McKenzie

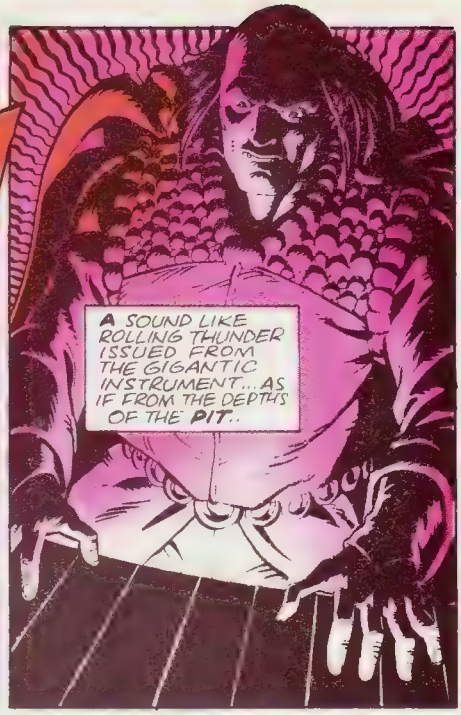


MUSIC FROM AN ORGAN!

COMING FROM THE CHURCH!

THIS IS EARTH, ISN'T IT, MY FRIEND? I CAN FEEL IT!

YES...IT'S EARTH...AT SOME SUSPENDED POINT IN TIME! AND YET SOMEONE, OR SOMETHING IS STILL ABLE TO FUNCTION...



...AND ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE!

AAAAAGH
METHINKS MELANICUS NOW SHOWS HIS TRUE FACE!
YOU CRAWLING MAGGOT ...YOU WORM! I WILL SCORCH YOUR SOUL...SEND YOU SCREAMING INTO ETERNITY WITH HELL-FIRE EATING YOUR BRAIN!
VROOARRR!
THE GROUND HEAVED ONCE MORE... WITH A GASP OF FOETID AIR, A TOMB SPEWED FORTH ITS GRISLY OCCUPANT!
OH, MY GOOD-NESS!
JUSTIN! ARE YOU ALRIGHT? JUSTIN!
A LIVING, MOVING CADAVER...ENDOWED WITH LIFE BEYOND DEATH, WHOSE SKELETAL FINGERS CLOSED AROUND THE DOCTOR'S THROAT...FORCING HIM BACK INTO THE FLAMES...
JUSTIN! HELP! TOO STRONG... CAN'T... >GASP<!

KRAK
I'M HERE, MY FRIEND!
AAGH! I'M BURNING!

HERE! YOUR WET HAT WILL SMOTHER THE FLAMES!
SSSSSSS
AHHH ... THANK GOODNESS!

JUSTIN ...I CAN'T SEE VERY WELL WITH THIS HAT OVER MY EYES...BUT I'D SWEAR WE WERE ALONE!
YOU'RE RIGHT, MY FRIEND... MELANICUS HAS GONE!

OUTSIDE, IN THE CHILL NIGHT AIR...A WHEEZING, GASPING SHAPE HAULED ITSELF PAINFULLY OVER PITTED STONE...
MELANICUS WAS CLIMBING THE BELL TOWER!

BUT AS HE REACHED THE TOP... HE FOUND HIMSELF CONFRONTED BY A SHADOW...
A SHADOW WHICH SEEMED TO BLOT OUT THE NIGHT STARS...A SHADOW WITH AN ORB FOR A HEAD...AND A GUN WHICH GLITTERED WITH ITS OWN MENACING LIGHT!
TWO SHOTS WERE FIRED... TWO SHOTS FOUND THEIR MARK!
THE MIND OF MELANICUS WAS PLUNGED ONCE MORE INTO DARKNESS AND PAIN!
AAARGH!

ONLY THE DEMON'S INHUMAN STRENGTH PREVENTED HIM FROM FALLING... INSTEAD HE HUNG SUSPENDED BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH...
BETWEEN FREEDOM AND THE DARK EARTH BENEATH...
THERE! THERE AT THE WINDOW ...HE SEEKS TO ESCAPE BY CLIMBING THE TOWER...
IT CANNOT BE...
...THE BEAST MUST DIE!
KRAASH!
IN THAT DECISIVE MOMENT, THE KNIGHT'S BLADE PIERCED THE DEMON'S HEART...DRIVEN BY THE STRENGTH OF CONVICTION ... AND RIGHTEOUS FURY!

BBC Video

THEN BOTH DEMON AND KNIGHT WERE **CONSUMED** IN A BLINDING FLASH...

A RELEASE OF ENERGY THAT **SEARED** THE DOCTOR'S EYES... AND SENT HIM REELING...

AND IT SEEMED THE UNIVERSE **MOVED**...

AS THE DOCTOR FELL INTO THE SEETHING CURRENT OF TIME... HIS EYES AND EARS WERE FILLED WITH THE LASTING SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF THE **EVENT SYNTHESISER**...

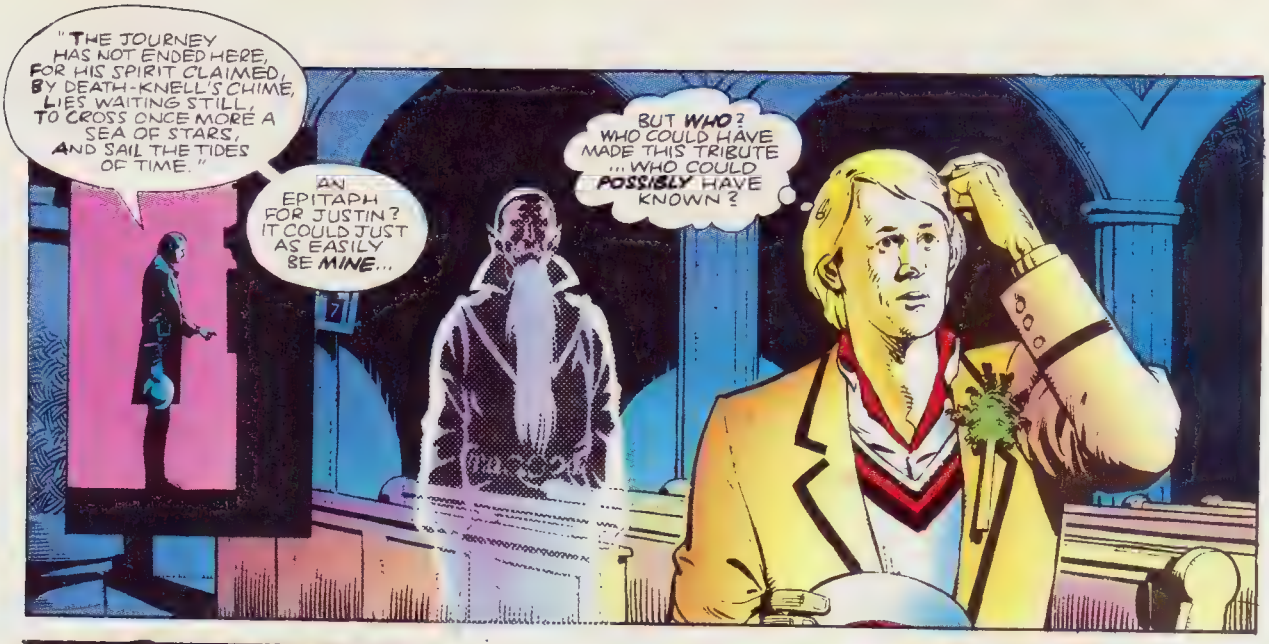
PLAYED BY ITS GUARDIAN OF OLD, THE **PRIME MOVER**!

EONS LATER, AFTER WHAT SEEMED LIKE AN **ENDLESS DREAM**, THE DOCTOR AWOKE ON A COLD, STONE FLOOR, WITH A SINGLE **NAME** ON HIS LIPS...

JUSTIN? **JUSTIN**!

OH, NO...

NOTHING MORE THAN **STONE**? IS THAT ALL YOU EVER **WERE**... OR EVER **WILL** BE?

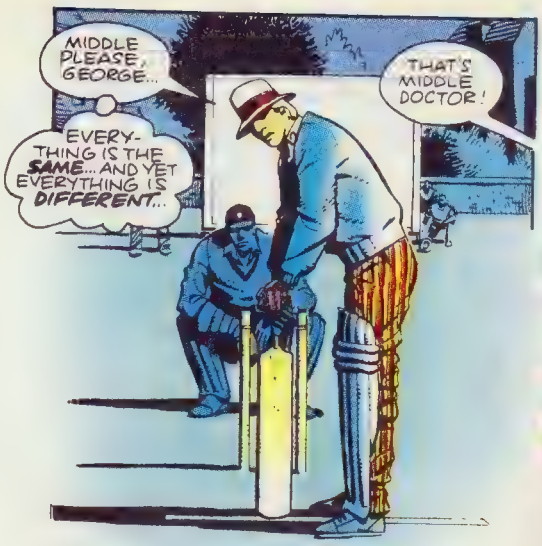

"THE JOURNEY HAS NOT ENDED HERE, FOR HIS SPIRIT CLAIMED, BY DEATH-KNELL'S CHIME, LIES WAITING STILL, TO CROSS ONCE MORE A SEA OF STARS, AND SAIL THE TIDES OF TIME."
AN EPITAPH FOR JUSTIN? IT COULD JUST AS EASILY BE MINE...
BUT WHO? WHO COULD HAVE MADE THIS TRIBUTE ...WHO COULD POSSIBLY HAVE KNOWN?

IT'S TIME TO LEAVE NOW, DOCTOR..
...WHAT?

THE SKIPPER ASKED ME TO FETCH YOU... YOU'RE NEXT MAN IN!
WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN HERE? PRAYING FOR A GOOD INNINGS?

ARE YOU ALRIGHT, DOC? YOU SURE YOU WANT TO PLAY?
OH... YES... YES OF COURSE! AFTER ALL, THE GAME MUST GO ON...
ST JUSTINIANS
MUSTN'T IT?

YOU'RE IN, DOCTOR... DON'T FORGET, KEEP A STRAIGHT BAT!
'OWZAT?


MIDDLE PLEASE, GEORGE...
THAT'S MIDDLE DOCTOR!
EVERY-THING IS THE SAME... AND YET EVERYTHING IS DIFFERENT...

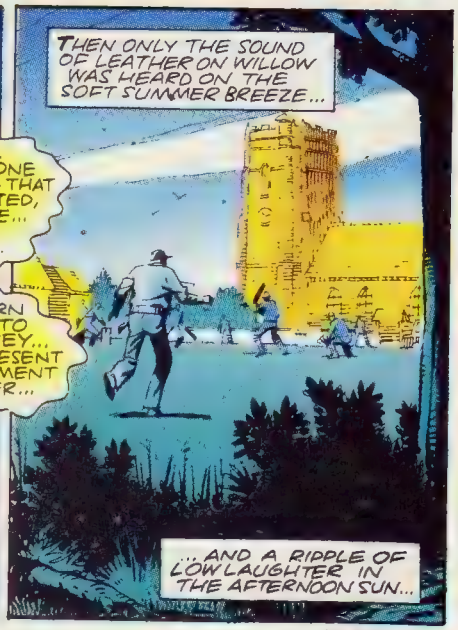
HAS TIME REALLY GONE BACK? AM I RELIVING A DREAM? IS MELANICUS REALLY DEAD?
DID THE HIGHER EVOLUTIONARIES SUCCEED? DID THEY EVER EXIST?

A HUSH HAD FALLEN OVER THE VILLAGE GREEN... THE DOCTOR'S MIND HAD GONE NUMB...
IS THE FATE OF THE UNIVERSE HINGED ON A SINGLE BALL IN A GAME OF CRICKET?
HE BARELY HEARD THE THUMP OF THE BOWLER'S FEET... A FLASH OF RED LEATHER...

CRAK!

AN AUDIBLE SIGH OF RELIEF ESCAPED FROM THE LIPS OF THE GATHERED SPECTATORS... TIME FLOWED ON...
FOUR RUNS!
AND AS A FIELDER RETRIEVED THE BALL, HE DIDN'T NOTICE A DARK SHAPE DETACH ITSELF FROM THE DAPPLED SHADOWS...

A SHAPE LIKE THAT OF A MAN... BUT NOT WHOLLY HUMAN...
MAY I RETURN HOME NOW, MASTERS? HAVE I PLEASED YOU?
YES, SHAYDE... YOU HAVE DONE EVERYTHING THAT WAS EXPECTED, AND MORE... WE ARE PLEASED.
RETURN NOW TO GALLIFREY... YOUR PRESENT ASSIGNMENT IS OVER...


THEN ONLY THE SOUND OF LEATHER ON WILLOW WAS HEARD ON THE SOFT SUMMER BREEZE...
... AND A RIPPLE OF LOW LAUGHTER IN THE AFTERNOON SUN...

THE END.

◆CLASSIFIED◆

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DAVE GIBBONS

Of all the artists to work on the *Doctor Who* comic strip over the years, few have achieved the level of success in the comics industry of the Time Lord's original delineator for Marvel UK's Doctor Who Magazine has. Dave Gibbons was associated with the Doctor for most of the initial sixty-nine issues of Doctor Who Weekly (as it was first entitled) and Doctor Who Monthly (as it regenerated into) before his career went into stellar orbit after drawing DC's landmark *Watchmen* series. His subsequent career continued onwards and upwards. He wrote *Batman vs Predator* and *World's Finest* (with Batman and Superman) and is currently working as artist on *Martha Washington's War Diaries*, written by comics legend Frank Miller, for Dark Horse Comics. Back in 1979, however, it was a very different story as Alan Woollcombe discovers...

Dave Gibbons' career at Marvel UK emerged from beginnings as proverbially humble as you can get. "I was re-lettering American stories, anglicising the spelling, which was a very fiddly bit of art bodging – *coloring* into *colouring* and *center* into *centre*, things like that. Later I did a three-page *Hulk* strip (in **Hulk Comic #1**) before *Doctor Who* and I also did a cover for a very short-lived comic that **Marvel UK** had out in the mid-Seventies called **Fury**, featuring Nick Fury. The only thing of interest about that is that the other day I came across a letter from **Fury**'s editor, accepting my rough of that cover and telling me to go ahead and do the finished thing. It was signed by one Neil Tennant, the famous Pet Shop Boy!"

As a result of such odds and ends, Dez Skinn, editorial director of **Marvel UK** at the time, offered him *Doctor Who*. "Dez told me that **Marvel** had acquired the rights to do *Doctor Who*. They were doing a weekly *Doctor Who* magazine, a mixture of photos, comic strips and articles. They needed someone to draw the comic strips. The original idea was for Paul Neary (then the art director for **Marvel UK**, who worked in-house alongside Dez) to lay the whole thing out and I was to ink it."

Gibbons, who at the time wanted out from his onerous *2000AD* commitments for IPC where he'd been re-vamping *Dan Dare* amongst other projects, baulked at this halfway house. "I wasn't interested because time-wise it was an awkward thing to do – to ink four pages a week wasn't a week's work, but to do four pages complete (ie pencilling and inking) was. I told Dez that I would rather do the whole job complete and he said fine. I was ready for a change from *2000AD* so it was a very appealing prospect."

BRINGING IN THE WRITERS

He started work on *Doctor Who* in July 1979, having managed to persuade Skinn to take on Pat Mills and John Wagner, also at *2000AD*, as writers. "I wangled that. I knew that Pat and John had submitted a slew of *Doctor Who* stories to the BBC but there was a change of script editor and they hadn't had any success selling them there. I knew they had these plots so I suggested to Dez that I might be able to get them to write the strips. I spoke to Pat and John, who thought it was a reasonable idea and a good thing to be seen to be working somewhere other than IPC as well. That was how that came about."

Mills and Wagner did four stories between them, all based on their rejected BBC submissions. "When it came to the actual scripting of the comic stories, Pat and John worked entirely separately. They alternated, writing two stories each – Pat scripted *The Iron Legion* and *The Star Beast* while John did *The City of the Damned* and *The Dogs of Doom*. When Pat and John

The first appearance of Gibbons' version of the Fourth Doctor in *The Iron Legion* back in Doctor Who Weekly Issue 1.

The Daleks, drawn by Gibbons for *The Dogs of War* strip. The metal meanies were always popular with *Doctor Who* artists.

came to write them for the comic, they broadened them out considerably from what they had been. The great problem with *Doctor Who* the television series has always been the limited special effects, whereas in the comic we could have robot Roman legions and werewolf troopers and things like that."

The two writers were about as different as could be. "Working with Pat and John was great – they are a couple of the most creative and professional comic strip writers that this country has ever produced. It was very interesting the contrast between the two in respect of their different styles and different personalities. Pat is very excitable and very talkative – he would talk to me for hours on the 'phone and then send me wonderful big, thick scripts with all sorts of reference ripped out of expensive books! Whereas John is a much more taciturn and dour Scottish chap who writes very terse scripts – I once called them 'exciting telegrams', that's the kind of way that John scripts things, very minimal description."

Mills and Wagner departed in June 1980 for reasons Gibbons is not sure about ("although I'm sure it was for good business reasons"), to be replaced by Steve Moore, an associate of Dez Skinn from his days at IPC. "Steve had a different style again from Pat or John," Gibbons recalls slowly. "He is a very able writer and he would tend to write a regular full script. We rubbed along quite well together until later on in the run when I suggested that maybe we could have a bash at doing it **Marvel US** style – in other words, he would supply a plot, I would draw the thing and he'd script it afterwards. We did a couple of stories like that but I don't think he liked this way of working. I don't think he left because of that but the upshot of it was that he left."

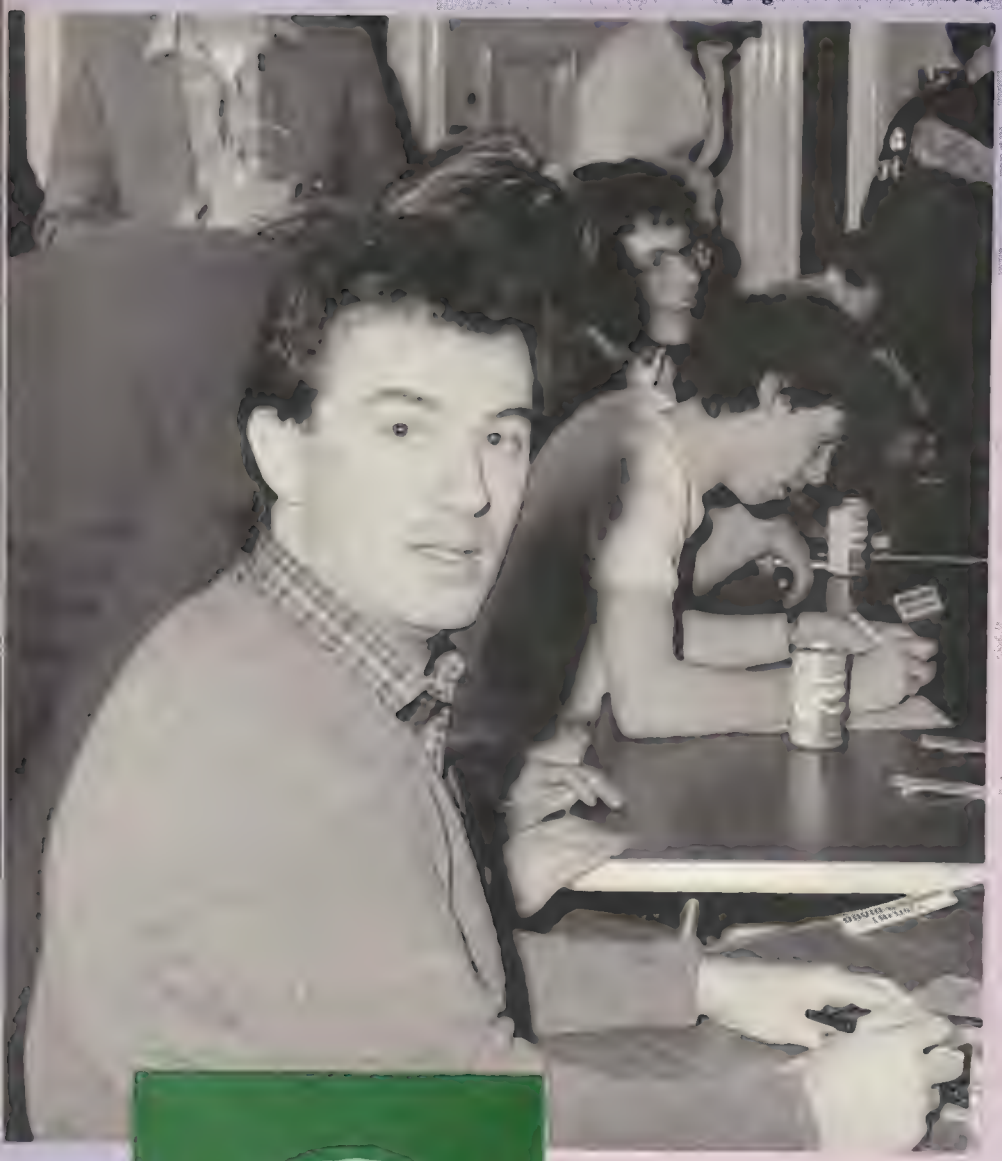
Next came an old comrade-in-arts, Steve Parkhouse. To say Gibbons rates Parkhouse highly is an understatement. "Steve figures quite a bit in my personal legend – amongst other things I learned to do hand lettering by looking over his shoulder. It was great working with him and those stories I did with him were some of my best *Doctor Who* work. He was someone I had always got on with very well, someone with a real sense of humour and really one of *the* unsung all-rounders of British comics – he writes very well, he draws very well, he letters very well. He was quite happy to work in the **Marvel US** style – in fact occasionally I'd do the whole artwork and he would script it and letter it all in one go! If you look at some of the strips I've done (particularly *The Neutron Knights)*, that is actually Steve's balloon lettering on there, not mine..." He nods, as if to make sure I can see the join. I can't.

LOST IN THE MISTS OF TIME

So much for the storytellers. Turn to the actual stories themselves, however, and Dave Gibbons' recollections become hesitant and peppered with *maybe*'s and *I don't recalls*. It is obvious that the personalities involved ring far more bells than these tales of yore, and even a quick running down of the story titles does little more than prompt the occasional brief comment. On *Dragon's Claw*: "I remember having a terrible time drawing that one" – pause – "for some reason I can't now identify". On *The Collector*: "That was a good story" – pause – "I enjoyed that." The pauses grow longer, time slows to a crawl as the artist's memories seem lost in a timewarp beyond even the TARDIS's powers of retrieval.

And then, appropriately enough, mention of *The Life Bringer* sparks reminiscence: "I very rarely use swipes when I draw, but in that one I had to draw a flying chariot with

Dave Gibbons at a DWM signing in Westminster in 1985.



Gibbons drew Davison's Doctor far more realistically than he did Tom Baker's version.

the Doctor on it. I clearly remember swiping a Ron Embleton picture of a chariot with horses." Embleton was a top British artist of the Fifties and Sixties whose work included *Wrath of the Gods* for *Boys' World* and *Wulf the Briton* in *TV Express*. "In the Embleton original it's like a Greek officer riding a chariot with ordinary horses across a battlefield, but in my version it's like a robot flying chariot. You'll be able to tell because it's unusually well drawn!" Hoots of laughter follow this confession of artistic swiping.

More technical revelations are to come. "On *End of the Line* I hit on a new technique for me. I had read somewhere that American cartoonist Milton Caniff, who created *Terry and the Pirates*, used to draw by pencilling the whole story out and then going in with a brush and spotting all the areas of black before he did any line work. At the time I was doing the Who strips I was sharing a studio with Mike McMahon and he didn't believe it could be done but I did it. I can remember him saying 'You bastard! You *have* done it!' He then proceeded to use it a bit on a *Starblazer Pocket Library* for DC Thomson."

But it is on *The Tides of Time*, the seven part odyssey scripted by Steve Parkhouse, that the artist achieves near-total recall. "Steve is really into the epic story and he fancied the idea of doing something with *Doctor Who* that really roamed the cosmos with all sorts of different strands and was rather more than the usual wham-bang stories that we had done up until then. I very much liked the sweep of it myself, as it was something I really could get my teeth into. I even got the chance to do my only full-colour *Doctor Who* spread on one of the episodes – the only other full-colour *Who* artwork I had done before that was for the give-away transfers in the first couple of issues."

The Tides of Time was also notable for being both Gibbons' penultimate outing on the strip and the first storyline to incorporate the Peter Davison Doctor. "When I drew the first episode, I had the most tremendous difficulty getting the likeness of Peter Davison. He was like a blancmange – blond hair, light skin and no eyebrows! The trouble was that there was very little reference available – all that there had been were publicity shots of him in tabloid newspapers and *Radio Times*."

Things went from bad to worse. "His agent wanted to stop the first episode being printed because he felt it made his client look ugly! The upshot of that was that Peter Davison very obligingly let me and then **DWM** editor Alan McKenzie take reference photos on the set. After that, the likenesses improved greatly and in a true sense I actually ended up getting a better likeness of him than I had done of Tom Baker, which was more of a caricature."

And so the good Doctor, looking himself again, set off on his seventeenth and final foray with Gibbons at the helm: *Stars Fell on Stockbridge*. "In the end of course, I became like the proprietor of *Doctor Who* and other people just came along and wrote it. I was the coherent creative element just as the Doctor himself was the coherent fictional element. The strip's format meant that, although the Doctor continued right through it, you were in effect doing unconnected stories in different locales. I've always enjoyed inventing backgrounds and technologies and moods and I enjoyed the aspect of being able to do things in different moods."

Stars Fell on Stockbridge was to mark the end of Gibbons' regular association with the character. "It was while I was dong *The Tides of Time* in 1982 that Dick Giordano came over from DC Comics in America and recruited a whole bunch of British artists to DC. The interesting thing is that I can clearly remember the first conversation I had with Dick. He said to me 'We've got something in common – we've both drawn *Doctor Who*!'" (Giordano drew the 1966 comics adaptation of the 1966 movie *Dr Who and the Daleks* for Dell Comics which was reprinted in **Doctor Who Classic Comics Issue 9**).

It wasn't quite Gibbons' last Gallifreyan gasp, however. The artist returned to draw the covers of the eponymously titled **Marvel US** series that ran for twenty-three issues between 1984 and 1985, reprinting Gibbons' entire run on the strip. "I did enjoy doing those covers. I could look through each story, pick my favourite scene in it and recreate it for the cover. There was one cover I wasn't going to do because Mike McMahon had drawn one of Steve Parkhouse's stories, *The Junkyard Demon*. Mike was asked to do the cover

Prometheus *The Life Giver*, an illustration swiped from Ron Embleton.

but declined so I did it instead. That was the only one I didn't enjoy doing because I really felt Mike *should* have done it."

"I don't think I'd want to go back and do *Who* again. Doing likenesses is a bit of a pain because it does slow you down – you have to look at photographs which I don't like doing, as I prefer to invent stuff from my head." ✧

Gibbons signs off from *Doctor Who* in the final frame of *Stars Fell on Stockbridge*.

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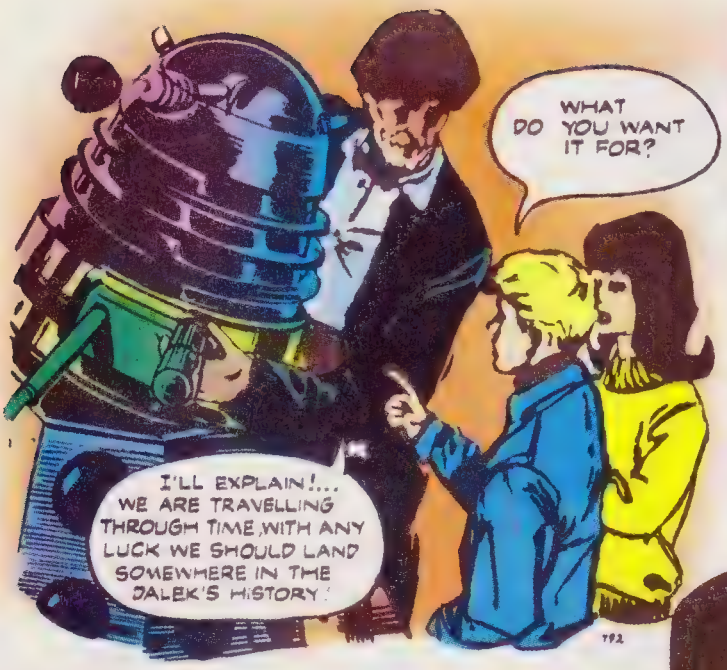
A DALEK... IT'S COME FROM THE DOCTOR'S LABORATORY!

HOW ON EARTH DID IT GET INTO THE TARDIS? THE DOCTOR WAS THE ONLY OTHER PERSON ABOARD WHEN WE STARTED!..

...NO NEED TO WORRY, CHILDREN! IT'S ONLY ME!
PHEW!... WHAT A RELIEF!

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY HOME-MADE DALEK?
IT FOOLED ME! IT LOOKS JUST LIKE THE REAL THING!


WHAT DO YOU WANT IT FOR?
I'LL EXPLAIN!... WE ARE TRAVELLING THROUGH TIME, WITH ANY LUCK WE SHOULD LAND SOMEWHERE IN THE DALEK'S HISTORY!

INSIDE MY LITTLE MOBILE DALEK I'LL BE ABLE TO MOVE AMONGST THEM AND FIND SOME WAY OF DESTROYING THEIR EVIL POWER!

THE TARDIS MATERIALIZES IN A SMALL CAVE...
POLICE CALL BOX
THE TARDIS HAS COME TO REST!

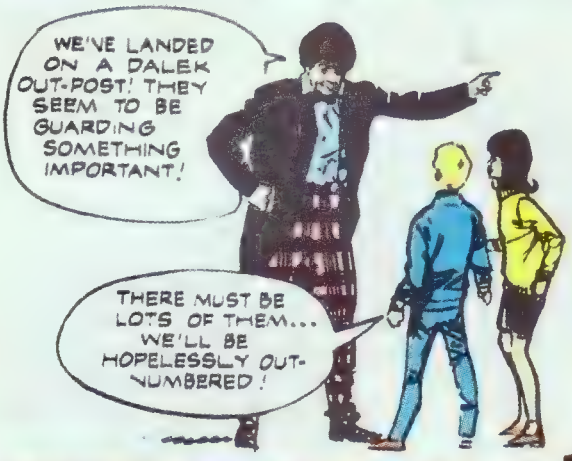
YEAR METER
2135 A
WE'VE MATERIALIZED IN 2135 A.D....THE YEAR WHEN THE DALEK EMPIRE WAS AT ITS GREATEST!...

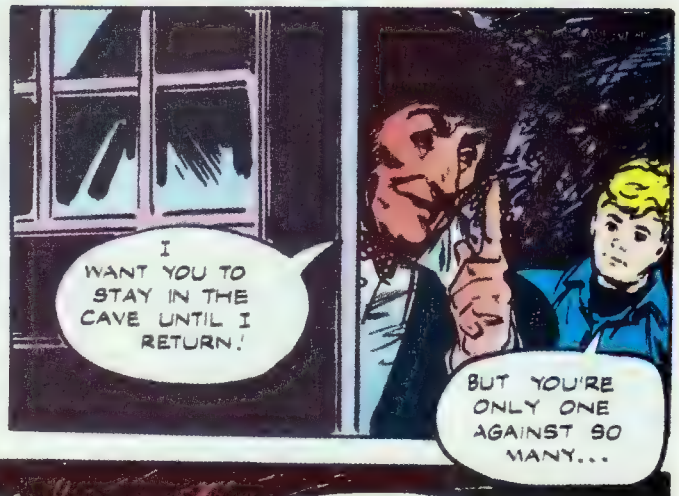
... THEY HAD MILITARY GARRISONS ON ALMOST EVERY PLANET IN THE UNIVERSE AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME!

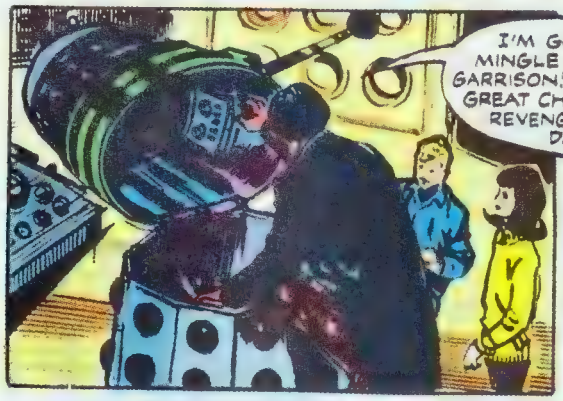
I'LL TAKE A SCOUT ROUND... YOU STAY BACK!
BE CAREFUL!

A DALEK OUT-POST... THEY MUST BE GUARDING SOMETHING OF VALUE!

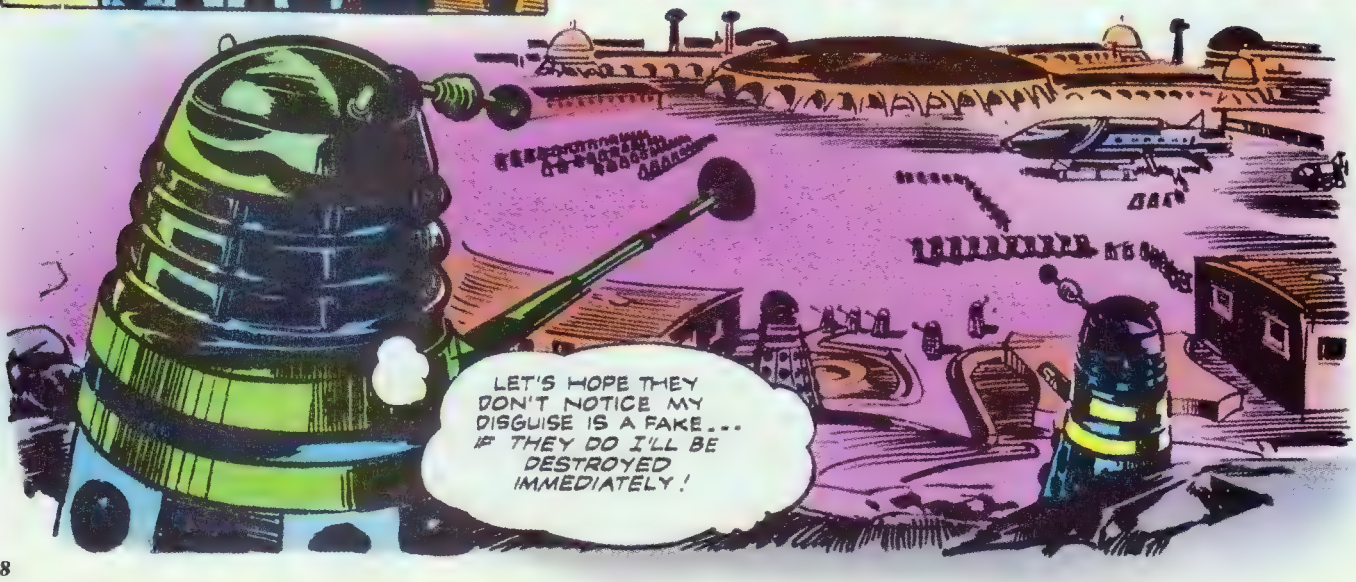
I'LL GET MY DALEK DISGUISE AND TAKE A CLOSER LOOK!


WE'VE LANDED ON A DALEK OUT-POST! THEY SEEM TO BE GUARDING SOMETHING IMPORTANT!
THERE MUST BE LOTS OF THEM... WE'LL BE HOPELESSLY OUT-NUMBERED!


I WANT YOU TO STAY IN THE CAVE UNTIL I RETURN!
BUT YOU'RE ONLY ONE AGAINST SO MANY...


I'M GOING TO MINGLE WITH THE GARRISON! THIS IS MY GREAT CHANCE TO GET REVENGE ON THE DALEKS!

GOOD LUCK, DOCTOR!


LET'S HOPE THEY DON'T NOTICE MY DISGUISE IS A FAKE... IF THEY DO I'LL BE DESTROYED IMMEDIATELY!

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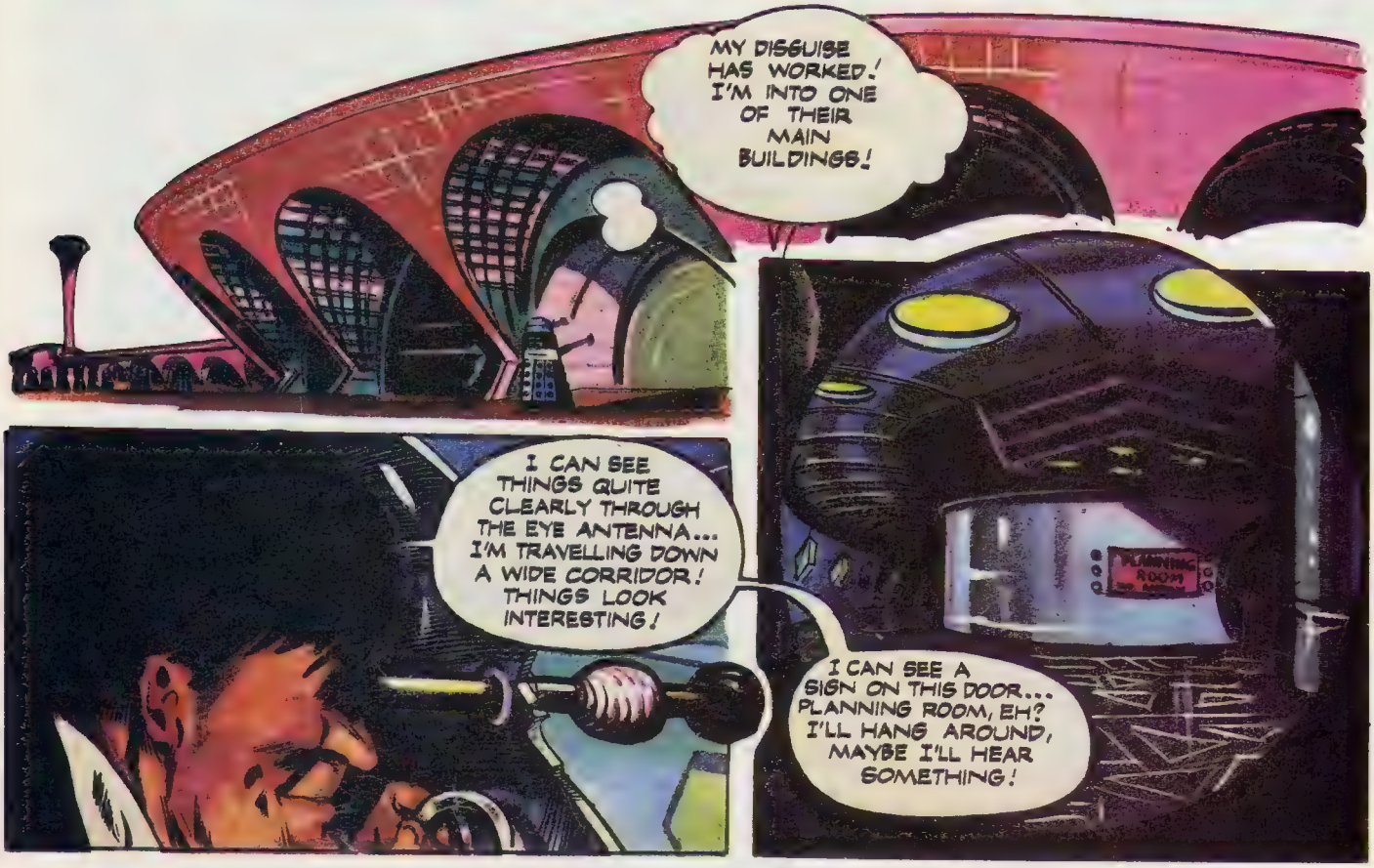
Free inside 4 colour portraits INCLUDING ROLF HARRIS!
DOCTOR WHO and the DALEKS
The Tardis has landed in a small cave on a planet occupied by Daleks. The Doctor has built a 'Dalek' which he can drive from the inside and has set off to mingle with their garrison . . .
SO FAR SO GOOD... THEY SEEM TO THINK I AM ONE OF THEM!


MY DISGUISE HAS WORKED! I'M INTO ONE OF THEIR MAIN BUILDINGS!
I CAN SEE THINGS QUITE CLEARLY THROUGH THE EYE ANTENNA... I'M TRAVELLING DOWN A WIDE CORRIDOR! THINGS LOOK INTERESTING!
I CAN SEE A SIGN ON THIS DOOR... PLANNING ROOM, EH? I'LL HANG AROUND, MAYBE I'LL HEAR SOMETHING!

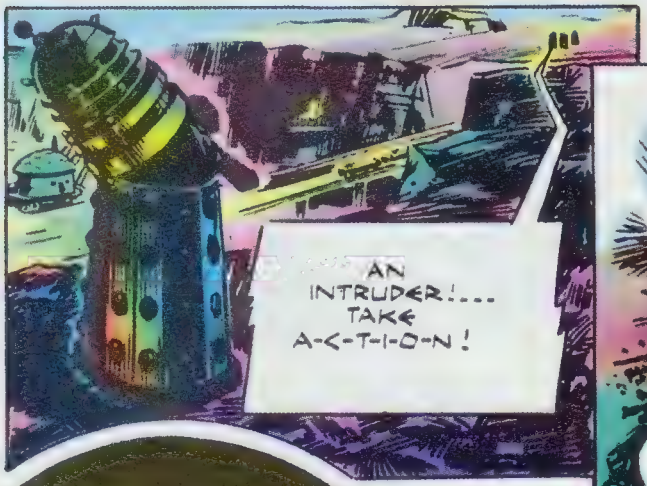
A LITTLE LATER...
AHA! AS I HAD HOPED...THE DALEKS IN THE PLANNING ROOM ARE BEGINNING TO TALK...
THIS PLANET IS RICH IN THE MATERIALS WE NEED TO REPRODUCE OURSELVES! THE DALEK SUPREME IS ON HIS WAY HERE BY FLYING SAUCER TO SUPERVISE THE PRODUCTION OF THOUSANDS OF DALEKS!
PLANNING ROOM
NO ENTRY
THE DALEK SUPREME!... ON HIS WAY HERE!... I'M ONTO SOMETHING BIG!
IF THEY INTEND PRODUCING THOUSANDS OF DALEKS THEY'RE PROBABLY GOING TO INVADE ALL PLANETS NOT YET UNDER CONTROL!
LATER...
THESE MUST BE THE PITS WHERE THEY ARE DIGGING UP THE MATERIALS NEEDED TO MAKE DALEKS!

THERE'S TONS OF THE STUFF... MUST BE ENOUGH TO MAKE 10,000 DALEKS...
ND97

IF ONLY I COULD GET A BETTER LOOK AT THINGS I MIGHT BE ABLE TO THROW A SPANNER IN THE WORKS AND HALT PRODUCTION...

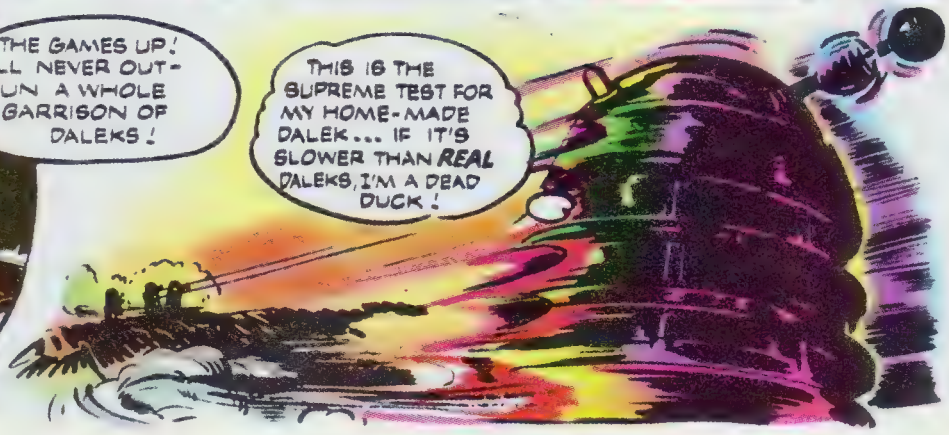
... THERE'S ONLY ONE THING FOR IT !

THAT'S BETTER ! NOW I CAN SEE HOW THE DALEKS ARE RUNNING AFFAIRS!


AN INTRUDER!... TAKE A-C-T-I-O-N !

DALEKS!.. THEY'VE SPOTTED ME !

SLAM!


THE GAMES UP! I'LL NEVER OUT-RUN A WHOLE GARRISON OF DALEKS !
THIS IS THE SUPREME TEST FOR MY HOME-MADE DALEK... IF IT'S SLOWER THAN REAL DALEKS, I'M A DEAD DUCK !

TV COMIC

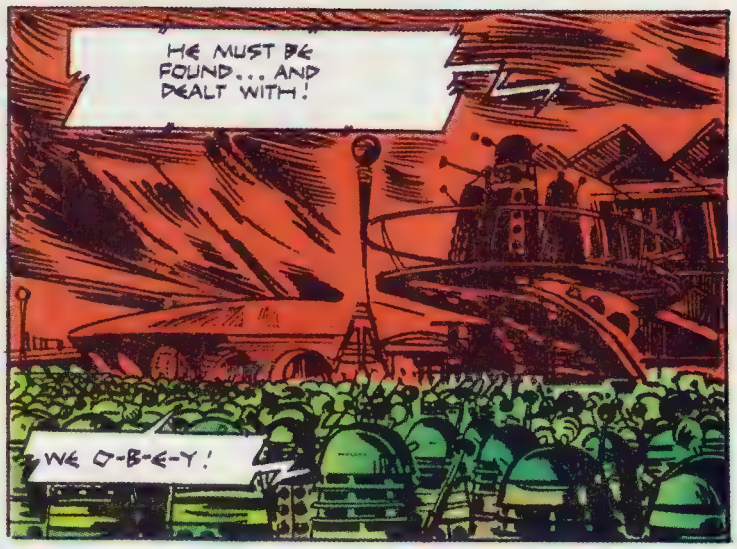
6D

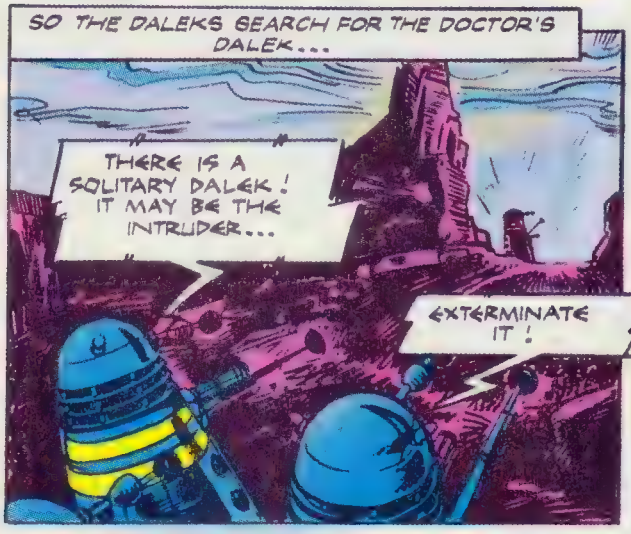
DOCTOR WHO and the DALEKS

Inside his home-made Dalek, Dr. Who is mingling with Dalek work parties, who are extracting materials which they intend to use to produce more of their number. A party of Daleks has spotted the Doctor . . .

THINGS ARE GETTING HOT... BUT I SEEM TO BE FASTER THAN THEM!

THERE IS AN INTRUDER AMONGST US... HE IS DISGUISED AS A DALEK!

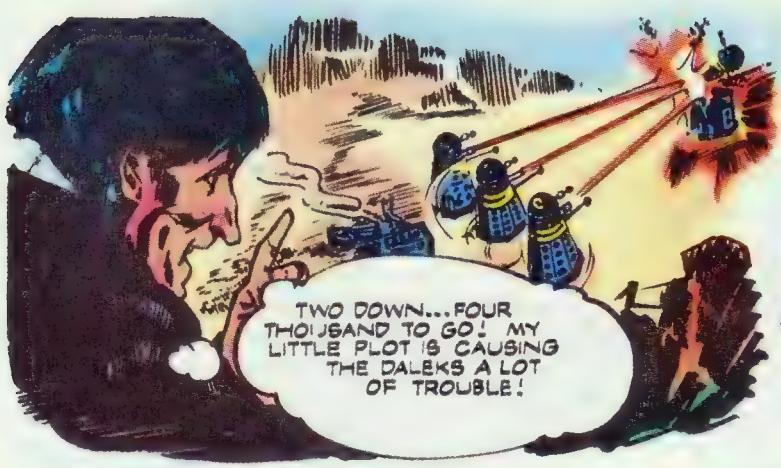

HE MUST BE FOUND... AND DEALT WITH!
WE O-B-E-Y!


SO THE DALEKS SEARCH FOR THE DOCTOR'S DALEK...
THERE IS A SOLITARY DALEK! IT MAY BE THE INTRUDER...
EXTERMINATE IT!

FIRE!
CRAAAK!

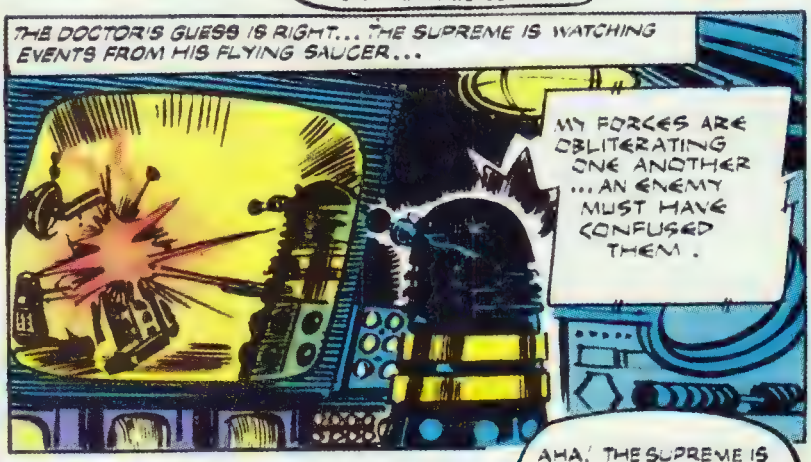
WE HAVE MADE A MISTAKE... IT IS ONE OF US! OUR ENEMY STILL LIVES!

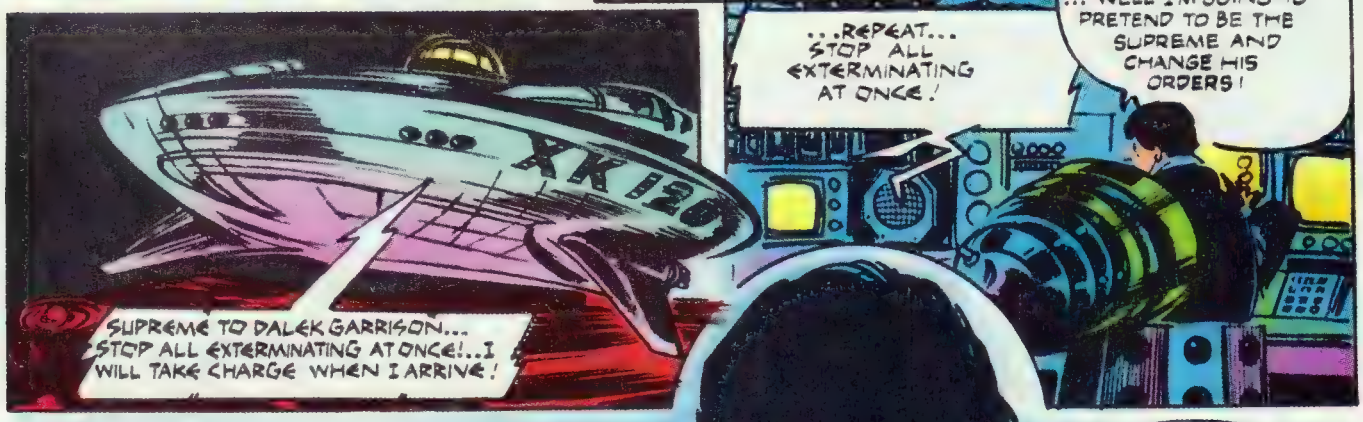
BEFORE LONG THEY'LL ALL BE DESTROYING EACH OTHER! HA! HA!
WE WILL CONTINUE OUR SEARCH... THE INTRUDER MUST DIE!


TWO DOWN...FOUR THOUSAND TO GO! MY LITTLE PLOT IS CAUSING THE DALEKS A LOT OF TROUBLE!

THE DOCTOR WAITS UNTIL ALL THE DALEKS IN THE BUILDINGS ARE OUT SEARCHING FOR HIM AND THEN MAKES HIS WAY TO THE CONTROL ROOM...
JOIN THE SEARCH... JOIN THE SEARCH!
THE SUPREME IS ON HIS WAY HERE BY SAUCER...HE MUST HAVE SPOTTED HIS DALEKS DESTROYING ONE ANOTHER ON THE VIDEO SCREEN...

RADIO COMMUNICATION
MY GUESS IS HE'LL RADIO THE PLANET AND TRY AND BRING HIS FORCES TO ORDER...IF HE DOES I'LL INTERCEPT THE MESSAGE!


THE DOCTOR'S GUESS IS RIGHT... THE SUPREME IS WATCHING EVENTS FROM HIS FLYING SAUCER...
MY FORCES ARE OBLITERATING ONE ANOTHER ...AN ENEMY MUST HAVE CONFUSED THEM.


MEANWHILE, IN THE RADIO ROOM...
...REPEAT... STOP ALL EXTERMINATING AT ONCE!
AHA! THE SUPREME IS RADIOING ORDERS FOR THE DALEKS TO STOP DESTROYING THEMSELVES ... WELL I'M GOING TO PRETEND TO BE THE SUPREME AND CHANGE HIS ORDERS!
XK 120
SUPREME TO DALEK GARRISON... STOP ALL EXTERMINATING AT ONCE!...I WILL TAKE CHARGE WHEN I ARRIVE!

THIS IS THE SUPREME HERE! TO ALL DALEKS! DO AS I COMMAND... D-E-S-T-R-O-Y Y-O-U-R-S-E-L-V-E-S.

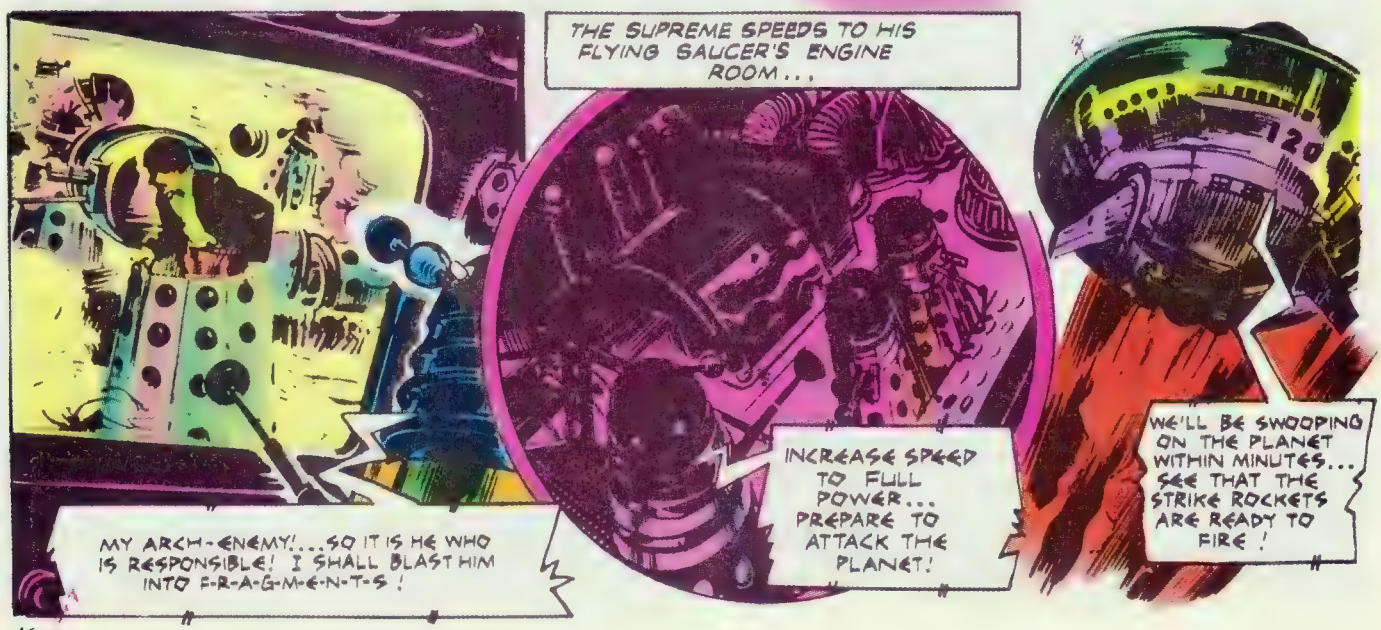
6D
TV COMIC
Inside military mirth with BEETLE BAILEY
On page 7
YOU ARE PRETENDING TO BE THE SUPREME... YOU MUST BE E-X-T-E-R-M-I-N-A-T-E-D!
DOCTOR WHO and the DALEKS
In his home-made Dalek, Dr. Who has caused havoc on a Dalek out-post. The Supreme radios for the chaos to stop. Dr. Who changes the message unaware that another Dalek is behind him . . .
A DALEK!..
A-A-A-H!
I'M QUICKER ON THE DRAW THAN ANY DALEK... FAREWELL!
THIS IS THE SUPREME...REPEAT... THE SUPREME! ALL DALEKS MUST DESTROY EACH OTHER...DO AS I COMMAND! I AM YOUR L-E-A-D-E-R!
.. THIS IS THE SUPREME.. DESTROY YOURSELVES!
THE SUPREME HAS COMMANDED... WE O-B-E-Y!
YES... WE OBEY!

DESTROY!
EXTERMINATE!
IT HAS BEEN ORDERED... IT MUST BE DONE!

THE SUPREME IS WATCHING EVENTS IN HIS FLYING SAUCER AS IT APPROACHES THE PLANET...
SOMEBODY HAS CHANGED MY ORDERS ... MY FORCES ARE STILL DESTROYING EACH OTHER!... I SHALL HAVE R-E-V-E-N-G-E

THE SUPREME BECOMES ENRAGED...
MY PLANS OF PRODUCING THOUSANDS OF DALEKS ON THE OUTPOST HAVE BEEN WRECKED..SOMEONE WILL BE PUNISHED! YOU TWO MUST DIE...YOU ARE UNHELPFUL FOOLS!

I WILL DISCOVER WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MASS DESTRUCTION OF MY FORCES AND DESTROY HIM...I, THE SUPREME, HAVE SPOKEN!


THE SUPREME SPEEDS TO HIS FLYING SAUCER'S ENGINE ROOM...
MY ARCH-ENEMY!...SO IT IS HE WHO IS RESPONSIBLE! I SHALL BLAST HIM INTO F-R-A-G-M-E-N-T-S!
INCREASE SPEED TO FULL POWER... PREPARE TO ATTACK THE PLANET!
WE'LL BE SWOOPING ON THE PLANET WITHIN MINUTES... SEE THAT THE STRIKE ROCKETS ARE READY TO FIRE!

"The Zombies", a sensational new Dr. Who adventure starts next week!

In response to many requests, we now present the first of an on-going detailed chronological guide to all of the *Doctor Who* comic strips adventures compiled by John Ainsworth, starting with the very first adventure...

THE KLEPTON PARASITES

TV Comic
Issues 674 - 683
(14.11.64 - 16.1.65)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Neville Main

John and Gillian meet their grandfather, "Doctor Who". Together they travel to the thirtieth century where they meet the peaceful Thains. The Thains are being attacked by the evil Kleptons in their flying machines and by their destructive creeper plants.

This first, and quite long, adventure established the Doctor as an eccentric but human professor. The young John and Gillian are immediately identified as the Doctor's grandchildren and meet with him for the first time in this adventure.

The Doctor apparently lives in his TARDIS which is situated in a junkyard which has the number "16" on the gate.

THE THEROVIAN QUEST

TV Comic
Issues 684 - 689
(23.1.65 - 27.2.65)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Neville Main

Crash-landing on an asteroid, the Doctor, John and Gillian meet Grig a Therovian.

Grig is on a quest to to save his people from a weakening illness and enlists the travellers help to collect a vital moss from the dangerous ice planet, Ixon.

THE HIJACKERS OF THRAX

TV Comic
Issues 690 - 692
(6.3.65 - 20.3.65)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Neville Main

The TARDIS lands on a mist enshrouded space station which belongs to space pirate, Thrax. Using a machine, Thrax is capturing supply ships and selling their cargo for his own profit.

On television, the Doctor would rarely if ever be seen using a gun. In the comic strip however, he apparently had no aversion to enlisting force as a means to an end and, as would be seen on several occasions, his solutions would often have apocalyptic consequences for his enemies.

ON THE WEB PLANET

TV Comic
Issues 693 - 698
(27.3.65 - 1.5.65)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Neville Main

The TARDIS lands on Vortis several years after the Doctor's previous visit. The Zarbi have once again been taken over, this time by Zarka, leader of the Skirkons. Zarka intends to mine a rare mineral, Galvinium X, from Vortis from which he will construct terrible weapons.

The final episode of the television adventure *The Web Planet* had aired only a week before the first part of this strip was published. The strong continuity links between the two stories would suggest that the strip writer had at the very least been provided with a script of the story as a reference for his own adventure. Not only are the Menoptera and the Zarbi featured but the characters refer quite accurately to the Doctor's previous visit to Vortis.

In one sequence in the story, the Doctor is seen to be strapped to a table as a laser beam slowly moves towards him. It can surely be no coincidence that *Goldfinger*, the latest James Bond film released the previous year, contained an almost identical scene.

THE GYROS INJUSTICE

TV Comic
Issues 699 - 704
(8.5.65 - 12.6.65)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Neville Main

The Doctor and his companions land on a planet ruled by spherical robots called Gyros. When Gillian is captured the Doctor investigates and discovers a race of humanoids who are the survivors of a terrible illness. It soon transpires that the Gyros are the servants

of another group of people who sealed themselves inside a building to avoid infection from the disease.

Curiously, John is referred to as "Johnny" in the box captions for this story but not in the speech balloons.

PRISONERS OF GRITOG

TV Comic Holiday Special (1965)
4 Pages (Duo-tone)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Neville Main

The Doctor and his grandchildren discover a group of space travellers imprisoned on the planet Spekra. The Doctor fights the evil plans of the dictator, Gritog, and a variety of dinosaur like monsters.

CHALLENGE OF THE PIPER

TV Comic
Issues 705 - 709
(19.6.65 - 17.7.65)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Neville Main

The TARDIS lands in the strange magical land of the Pied Piper of Hamelin where the Hamelin children are still prevented from returning to their parents. After making a treacherous journey to the Piper's castle the Doctor is set three challenges which, if he passes, the Piper will allow the the Hamelin children to return home.

Once again, John is referred to as "Johnny" in the caption boxes.

MOON LANDING

TV Comic
Issues 710 - 712
(24.7.65 - 7.8.65)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Neville Main

In 1970, the first men from Earth land on the moon. The two astronauts are however dismayed to discover a Police Box! Going to investigate the astronauts fall down a crevasse.

This comparatively short story concentrated very much on the scientific accuracy of putting man on the moon. Considering that this achievement was in reality four years away, the strip's predictions are remarkably accurate. The given date of the moon landing is almost exactly one year out.

The Doctor and companions do not appear until the second instalment of the adventure. The problem of communication in a vacuum makes for an interesting but simple story. It is surprising, however, that the astronauts are not able to work out for themselves that the moon's low gravity will work in their favour.

TIME IN REVERSE

TV Comic
Issues 713 - 715
(14.8.65 - 28.8.65)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Neville Main

When the TARDIS lands on a small rock in the ocean, the Doctor, John and Gillian are amazed when they discover that all about them time is flowing in reverse. Separated from the TARDIS, the Doctor realises that the only way back to it is to retrace their steps back to the beginning of an adventure that they have no knowledge of.

The story line of this strip is basically a familiar one of capture and escape in its most simplistic form. However, the clever notion of the characters experiencing it in reverse gives it an entertaining new dimension. This leads to a series of situations where the Doctor, by means of deduction, has to work out what they would have done to get where they are now.

PRISONERS OF THE KLEPTONS

TV Comic Annual (1966)
Pages: 13 - 16 (Colour)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Neville Main

The Doctor, John and Gillian along with the crew of an Earth spaceship are captured and imprisoned by the Kleptons. The Kleptons intend to use their prisoners to help them invade Earth.

This adventure is the first example of the *Doctor Who* comic strip making use of its own history as continuity. The Kleptons made their first appearance in the very first *Doctor Who* strip *The Klepton Parasites*.

THE CATERPILLAR MEN

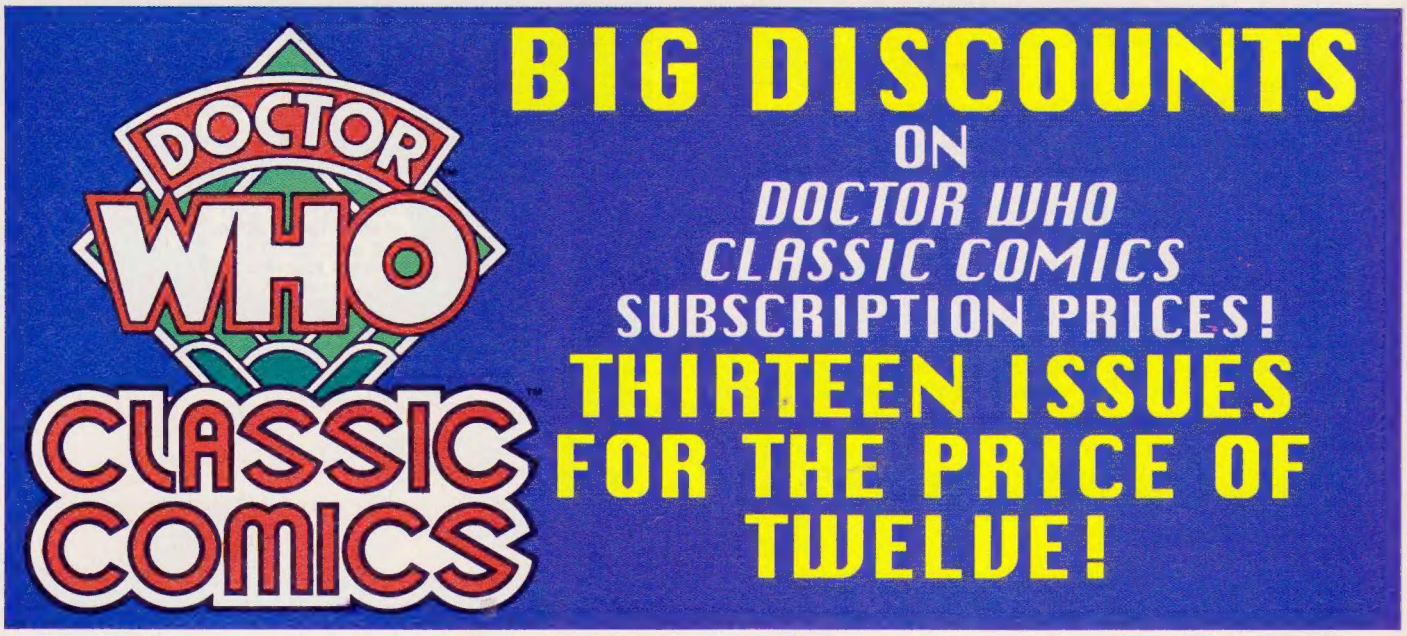
TV Comic Annual (1966)
Pages: 90 - 93 (Colour)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Neville Main

Caterpillar Men invade Earth and capture a group of the world's leading scientists. The TARDIS lands and the Doctor is also captured.

LIZARDWORLD

TV Comic
Issues 716 - 719
(4.9.65 - 25.9.65)
Pages: 2 & 3 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Neville Main

Landing on a barren rocky world, the TARDIS is stolen by a giant lizard creature. Attempting to recover the ship, the Doctor and his companions are then captured by more lizard creatures. ✧



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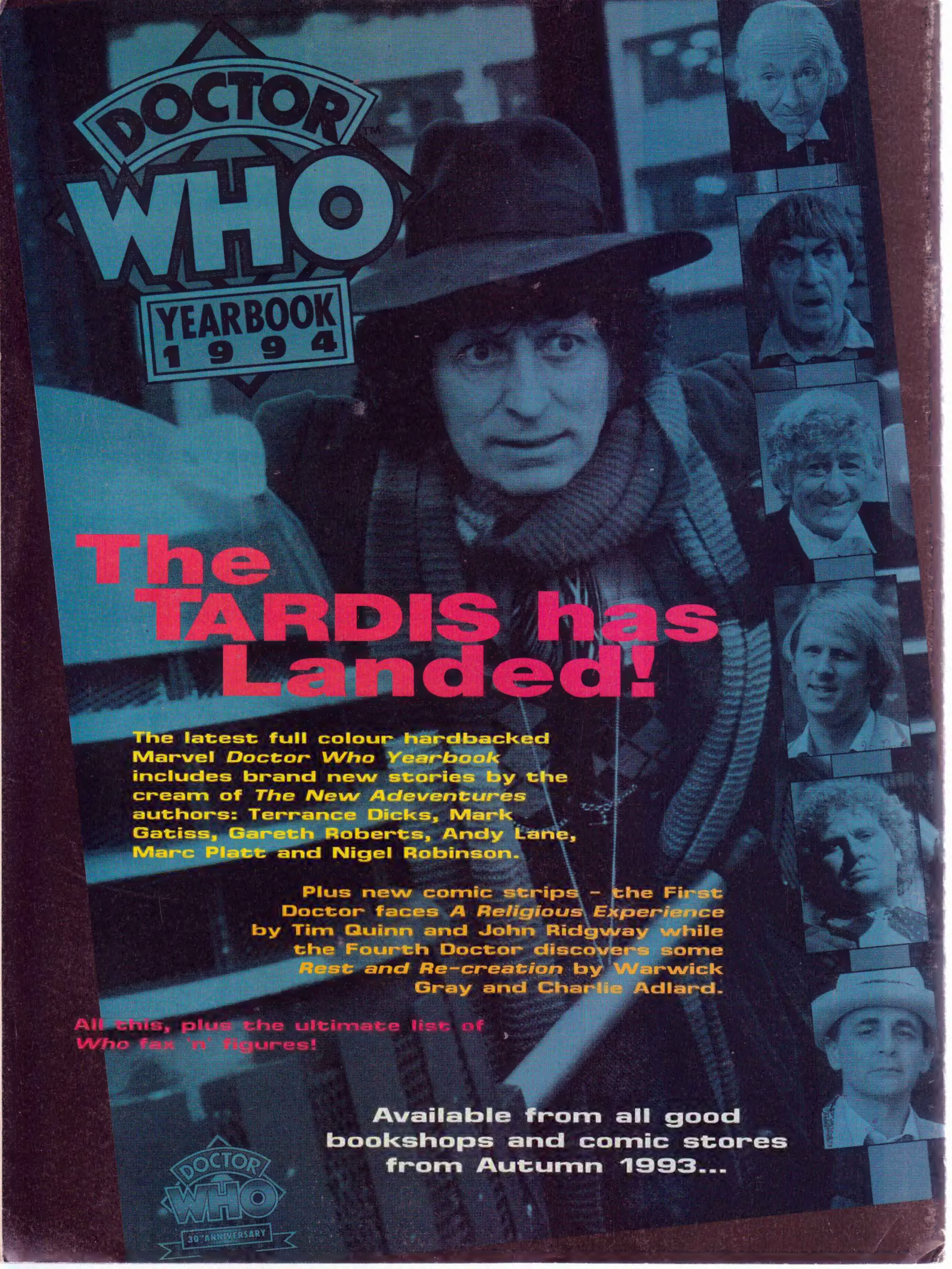
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